

City of Livingston, Tree Board Agenda

A regular meeting of the City Tree Board has been scheduled for Thursday, July 21, 2022, 12-1 p.m. This meeting will be held outside the City-County Complex at 414 East Callendar Street near the Canon (weather permitting) or inside the Community Room.

- **Roll Call, conflict of interest statements**
- **Review and approve 5.19.22 minutes**
- **Old Business**
 - Discuss/decision: Tree Board Applicants, Maira Emperley and Heidi Johnson
 - Discuss/decision: Tree and Shrub Recommendations
 - Discuss Tree Board Strategic Plan
- **Public Comments**
- **Board Comments**

Tree Board Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2022, noon to 1 pm

Present:

Voting members: Laurel Desnick, Maureen Lighthiser, Elizabeth McNamee

Non-voting members: Melissa Nootz, Dan Baker, Park Foreman

Absent: requested absenom Shands, Sarah Boyle

Approval of Minutes February 2017, motion by Maureen, second by Elizabeth, 3 yay

Old business:

Update from Dan regarding City Tree Planting: planted approximately 40 trees, throughout city. Replaced trees taken down due to hazards in the previous year. Grant funded by MUFCA, bids and implementation handled by them including purchase and planting. Roughly \$40,000. Still many trees in town needing attention due to hazard, illness, location.

Dan's recommendation for watering a new tree in Livingston for the first two years, 5 gallons three times a week.

Tree inventory starting in the next month. Mainly looking at the south side of town. Each tree evaluated for condition, species, location. Contract has been awarded. Intention is to have the inventory completed by September this year.

Update from PCEC on their tree project. Erica not able to attend. Per Dan, PCEC completed their project planting about 70 trees around town this week.

New business:

Park St/89 S through town project. City budget meeting will be May 24, 5:30 -8:30 pm, possibly on zoom. It would be important to bring up this topic as a priority. It is already in the Tree Board Strategic Plan but no budget is currently attached to it. Best approach would be to include a number of other Boards such as Active Transportation, Parks and Trails, Zoning, Planning, Public Works, etc. Laurel will attend.

Update tree list for new climate considerations. Will review at next meeting hopefully along with Dan Busch, city arborist, and Sarah Boyle present.

Agenda items for next meeting:

Revisit strategic plan, Laurel will send out prior to the meeting

Revisit the tree species recommendations, along with list for shrubs appropriate in our climate. Laurel will send out current and new recommendations, along with link to city website and tree resources

New member applications: will check with Faith for updates

Next meeting: June 16, noon, location to be announced. If interested in gazebo, we must reserve with Maggie.

Small Under 20'

Toba Hawthorn
Crataegus X mordenensis

Gladiator Crabapple
Malus x adstringens

Red Splendor Crabapple
Malus 'Red Splendor'

Royalty Crabapple
Malus 'Royalty'

Spring Snow Crabapple
Malus 'Spring Snow'

Mountain Frost Pear
Pyrus ussuriensis

Japanese Tree Lilac
Syringa reticulata

Medium 20'-40'

Sensation Maple
Acer negundo

Ohio Buckeye
Aesculus glabra

Dolgo Crabapple
Malus 'Dolgo'

Radiant Crabapple
Malus 'Radiant'

Canada Red Chokecherry
Prunus virginiana

European or Show Mountain Ash
Sorbus aucuparia or decora

Large over 40'

Royal Red Maple
Acer platanoides

Northwood Maple
Acer rubrum

Sienna Glen Maple
Acer freemanii "sienna"

Common Hackberry
Celtis occidentalis

Patmore Green Ash
Fraxinus pennsylvanica 'Patmore'

Shademaster or Skycole Honeylocust
Gleditsia triacanthos

Narrowleaf Cottonwood*
Populus angustifolia

Lanceleaf Cottonwood*
Populus x acuminata

Burr Oak
Quercus macrocarpa

American Linden
Tilia americana

Greenspire Littleleaf Linden
Tilia cordata 'Greenspire'

Prarie Expedition Elm
Ulmus Americana 'Lewis & Clark'

Large Shrubs suitable for planting

Rocky Mountain Maple*
Acer glabrum

Mugo Pine
Pinus mugo

Tatarian Maple (can also be found as a tree)
Acer tataricum

Canada Red Chokecherry
Prunus virginiana

Amur Maple
Acer ginnala

Autum Brilliance Serviceberry
Amelanchier x grandiflora

Livingston Tree Board Strategic Plan for 2021-2026

Revised and approved by board 10/21/2021.

Mission

The purpose of the Livingston Tree Board is to advise the City Commission on matters related to trees within the city. We advocate on behalf of the public for policies, funding, outreach and partnerships that promote, protect and enhance trees for public benefit.

Vision

We envision a biologically diverse, healthy tree landscape that provides beauty, reduces the urban heat island effect, promotes walkability, reduces pollution and energy costs, slows traffic and improves water quality.

Priorities (2-year goals)

Priority #1: Recommend programs, outreach and funding for establishing new trees in the 700+ vacant boulevard planting sites identified in the 2014 tree inventory.

Priority #2: Develop recommendation for tree planting at city entrances and along Park Street.

Priority #3: Recommend tree district(s) to support maintenance and planting of trees in parks and boulevards, including for emerald ash borer mitigation.

Long-Term Goals and Strategies

Goal #1: Advocate for establishing new trees, prioritizing where they are needed most, including to offset likely effects of emerald ash borer and maintain tree cover..

- Collaborate with Livingston Parks and Trails Committee and city staff to recommend trees at existing and new parks and trails.
- Recommend programs for establishing new trees in the 700+ vacant boulevard planting sites identified in the 2014 tree inventory.
- Identify priorities for trees at city entrances, collaborate with stakeholders and identify potential funding sources.
- Explore partnerships with school district to promote tree planting on school grounds.
- Promote tree planting during new development and re-development through recommendations regarding zoning, building standards and other policies.
- Consider equity of tree benefits throughout Livingston in all recommendations.
- Explore community plantings and partnerships such as community orchard, demonstration grove showcasing recommended species, etc.

Goal #2: Advocate for municipal tree management that enhances tree benefits and addresses tree hazard risk.

- Recommend city budget and staffing for carrying out municipal tree management and achieve Tree Board recommendations.
- Recommend new municipal tree management plan as advised by 2015 consultant report.

- Review city tree ordinance and recommend changes, including according to updated tree management plan and tree maintenance districts.
- Monitor advance of emerald ash borer and recommend management strategies according to best science, public input, long-term preservation of tree benefits, and city resources.

Goal #3: Expand the city's tree management capacity and efficacy through grants, city funding mechanisms, partnerships, philanthropy, and public outreach.

- Recommend grants from Montana DNRC, Montana Urban and Community Forestry Association and others.
- Recommend partnerships and volunteer programs for increasing city's capacity with tree growing, planting, watering and basic maintenance.
- Recommend options for tree maintenance district(s).
- Explore interest from philanthropic and nonprofit organizations for funding tree goals.
- Develop and recommend outreach (including social media, city website, signs in parks, etc) to inform the public of tree benefits, best practices for tree planting and maintenance, emerald ash borer, and other public tree issues.

Accomplished in 2021:

- Recommended creation of emerald ash borer plan. Provided extensive background information on EAB problem, cost scenarios for city, and treatment/replacement options.
- Recommended partnership with MSU Extension Master Gardener Class for structural pruning of young trees in parks.
- Revised list of suitable trees for boulevard planting.
- Developed brochure with information about suitable species and best practices for boulevard planting.
- Recommended new content for city tree webpage, coinciding with city's switch to new website. (Recommended with revised species list and planting guide.)
- Recommended increased city tree budget for 2021-2022 to leverage grant opportunities.