

City of Livingston, Tree Board Agenda

A regular meeting of the City Tree Board has been scheduled for Thursday, January 20, 2022 at Noon. This meeting will be over Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89973933584?pwd=L24wZW5Ba3dnY3Q0aGtnWVgvK2g3QT09>

Meeting ID: 899 7393 3584

Passcode: 460738

- **Approval of Minutes**
- **Old Business**
 - Update from PCEC on tree planting initiative.
- **New Business**
 - Discuss recommendation for Arbor Day grant and planning for April 29 event.
 - Discuss open officer positions: Secretary and Vice Chair.
- **Public Comments**
- **Board Comments**

LIVINGSTON TREE BOARD

REGULAR MEETING December 16, 2021, Zoom

MINUTES

Attendance: Marshall Swearingen, Lisa Harreld, Tom Shands, Maureen Lighthiser, Sarah Boyle

Approval of Minutes: No Minutes to approve.

Old Business:

- **Updated budget recommendation and priorities for 2022** – The Tree Board will be recommending to the city commission its priorities for 2022 including #1) Support new tree establishment in boulevards; #2) develop updated tree management plan in support of tree district(s); and #3) tree planting along Park Street/ Hwy 89. The Board had many ideas of projects and priorities and after discussion was able to narrow the list down to the 3 top priorities. **Marshall made a recommendation to approve the budget recommendation and submit it along with the Strategic Plan. Maureen seconded. All in favor.**
- **Tree City USA renewal application, due by the end of 2021** – Every year the Tree Board applies for the Tree City renewal application. This effort helps to educate the public and promote the importance of trees in Livingston. And every year the Tree Board sponsors and throws an Arbor Day Celebration in conjunction with the grant. In 2022 Arbor Day will be Friday, April 29, 2022. The Livingston Arbor Day Celebration will be held on or near April 29. **Marshall made a motion to approve the Tree City Grant application. Tom seconded. All in favor.**

New Business:

- **Annual report to the commission** – The annual report is an opportunity for the Tree Board to review and document our accomplishments in the past year. The board continues our mission and goals to educate the public and city staff and administration about the importance of trees, planting trees, and the importance of proper care after planting. The board will continue these efforts in 2022 and anticipates renewed energy with the assignment of new commission member as liaison to the board. **Marshall made a motion to approve the annual report to be sent to the commission. Maureen seconded. All in favor.**
- **Recommend 2022 Arbor Day proclamation (for January Commission agenda.)** – **Marshall made a motion to send email to Faith to request the proclamation be added to the agenda for the first commission meeting in January. Lisa seconded. All in favor.**

- **Board comments –**

- **Tom** – Tom commented that there may be additional federal money available in the future that may apply to urban forests. The Build Back Better funding includes money set aside for the urban environment, including trees. We will keep our eyes open for grant opportunities. Tom also commented about the recent tree removals of old large cottonwood trees near the Meyers Landing trail.
- **Sarah** - These may have been trees that were already flagged for removal by Eric Schneider, the city arborist who recently retired.
- **Marshall** - Now that the city doesn't have a city arborist the Board will be available to provide input and advise the city on similar situations. This situation at this trail also highlights the need for a new tree management plan. Sarah and Tom concurred.
- **Tom** – Tom provided some information about the money that PCEC secured through fundraising. They are going to be able to purchase 25-50 trees depending on the size. Trees will be planted in the spring. They are working with Ace Hardware and Cashmans to purchase trees.
- **Marshall** – When planning for the expenses of planting trees, it would be wise to include the costs for tree trunk protection to keep deer and lawnmowers etc. from damaging the trees.

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 pm. Next meeting January 20, 2022, via zoom

To: Lisa Lowy
CC: City Manager, Public Works, City Commission
From: Tree Board
Date: January 20, 2022



Recommendation for DNRC Arbor Day grant and event

Dear Lisa,

As requested, below you will find information for applying for a 2022 Arbor Day grant from Montana DNRC. Our recommendations below correspond directly with the online application, although only information relevant to the board is included (i.e. skipping other entries such as the City's tax ID number).

We also intend this to inform the City Manager and Public Works of our general intent for planning an Arbor Day celebration, although we will further advise as those details take shape, pending grant approval. Please let us know if you have any questions.

The application deadline for this grant is January 31, 2022.

Grant information available at:

<http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/forestry/forestry-assistance/urban-and-community-forestry/urban-and-community-forestry-grants>

Grant submitted through online portal:

<https://mt.amplifund.com/Public/Opportunities/Details/7fff72ff-e18b-4860-af85-5ab31fc75269>

Part 1: Applicant Information

We are a Tree City USA community: Yes (\$750 grant)

Part 2: Event Description

Planned Celebration Date: Friday, April 29, 2022 (Arbor Day)

Describe the celebration your community is planning. How will this grant help your community's celebration? How does your community plan to highlight and/or publicize this event?

Livingston's Arbor Day celebration will be centered around planting 2-3 trees in a park or other prominent location owned by the City of Livingston. The planting sites will be in an area with existing irrigation or will be planted with a plan for regular summer watering for three or more years. At a minimum, the Arbor Day celebration will include members of the public invited with a notice in the local newspaper and over the City's social media channels.

To further highlight Arbor Day, the Livingston Tree Board plans to invite local nonprofit Park County Environmental Council to attend and promote their tree-planting program. PCEC has raised money from independent donors to provide boulevard trees to homeowners starting this spring.

The planting of the Arbor Day trees will provide an opportunity to spread the word to attendees and media about this program.

Furthermore, the Tree Board plans to invite local schools to attend the event. Last year several kids from a small alternative school attended the event and learned about tree planting.

Will volunteers be involved in the planning and implementation of your arbor day celebration? And if so, who will participate and what is their role?

Members of the Tree Board will be involved in planning the event in coordination with PCEC and local schools.

Part 4: Arbor Day Proclamation

[PDF of completed 2022 Arbor Day Proclamation is provided below for upload]

Additional details

Although not required by the DNRC grant application, the Tree Board has secured price estimates from local nurseries for the trees to be planted using these grant funds.

TK PRICE ESTIMATES FROM TOM

These prices are for the trees only and do not include the cost of T-posts, tree protectors etc to be provided by Public Works.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve Livingston,

Sarah Boyle
Laurel Desnick
Maureen Lighthiser
Thomas Shands
Marshall Swearingen - Chair