



**Yakima Tree Board
BIMONTHLY MEETING
Zoom Virtual Meeting
Monday, November 8, 2021
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

YTB Members:

Lance Forsee, Jheri Ketcham, Daniel Layton, Chip Rognlie, Ken Tolonen

City Planning Staff:

Eric Crowell (Senior Planner)

Agenda

- I. Approval of the Meeting Minutes from September 20, 2021**
- II. Presentation from DNR – Evergreen Communities Act and Grant Program**
- III. Tree City USA Application due December 1, 2021**
- IV. Review of Current Street Tree List**
- V. Staff Report – Chip Rognlie**
- VI. For the Good of the Order**
- VII. Adjourn**

Next Meeting: January 10, 2022 on Zoom

To listen/watch this virtual meeting, please register with your name and email address here:

https://cityofyakima.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0T5eo1hWRTqPNYt76d7gcQ

After registering, you will receive emailed instructions for joining the meeting online with your device or by calling in. The meeting will also be recorded and posted on the Y-PAC website.

It shall be the responsibility of the tree board to study, investigate, develop, update, and administer a written plan for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal or disposition of trees and shrubs in parks, along streets and in other city-owned public areas. The tree board shall consider, investigate, make findings, report and make recommendations regarding any special matter or question coming within the scope of its work.

Yakima Tree Board
DRAFT
Minutes of September 20, 2021

Board Members Present: Jheri Ketcham, Chip Rognlie, Ken Tolonen

Absent and Excused: Lance Forsee, Daniel Layton

City Staff: Eric Crowell (Senior Planner)

Introduction and Welcome

Jheri Ketcham convened the monthly meeting of the Yakima Tree Board at 5:00 p.m. in the 2nd Floor Conference Room at City Hall.

Approval of the Meeting Minutes from July 19, 2021

Chip made the motion to approve the previous meeting's minutes, and Jheri seconded the motion. The motion was passed by consensus.

Status of Remote Meetings

Eric announced that since the beginning of September, City Council meetings and board and committee meetings are being held remotely. Tree Board meetings are once again being held remotely over Zoom until further notice.

As an aside, Jheri asked Eric if he had heard any recent news from DNR regarding grants; he said he hadn't heard anything yet regarding grants and DNR's new additional funding.

Webinar – Manual for Standards in Practice: Urban & Community Forestry on September 22 at 9:00 a.m. (DNR)

Eric will email the board members information regarding the webinar, and will provide everyone with the presentation if it's made available after the webinar.

Review of Proposed Scheduling Framework and Other Bylaws

Eric presented the (updated) proposed Bylaws to the Board for their consideration, which included scheduling regular meetings for the second Monday of every other month, as was agreed upon at the July 19, 2021 meeting.

Eric also explained the proposed decision-by-consensus model and that a motion be required only if there is disagreement over an item, along with during a public hearing regarding a dead or diseased tree on private property, since City Council will probably want to know how closely the Board voted.

The Board approved the proposed Bylaws by consensus, which along with the scheduling included some other minor revisions. Eric will post them to the Tree Board website and they can be amended as needed in the future by the Board.

Staff Report – Chip Rognlie

Chip is working on budget numbers for the City's annual Tree City USA application.

For the Good of the Order

Jheri mentioned that the Rotary Club of Yakima might be interested in working with the City on a tree project that could serve as helping to implement part of a future tree management plan.

Colleen Adams-Schuppe at the Yakima Area Arboretum might be interested in starting a heritage tree program.

Jheri wants to talk about the street tree list at the next meeting regarding any proposed revisions, as she's noticed that Autumn Brilliance and October Glory have performed terribly in the wind, with ones reaching 30 feet in height snapping. She also mentioned the trees along Yakima Avenue appear to be in poor condition, and Chip noted that they generally only have a life expectancy of five to twenty years. Eric said that discussion could include creating a section for trees managed by the Downtown Association of Yakima.

Chip and Eric will work on planning for a roaming outdoor meeting for the purpose of checking out the downtown trees, which could take place as a regular meeting or a special meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:26 p.m. The next Yakima Tree Board meeting will be held on Monday, November 8, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. over Zoom.