

Tree and Landscape 2025 April Meeting Minutes

Reagan Roth	1	Ralph Weber	1
Gulizar Baggson		Jeannie McIntire	1
Helen Lampkin	1	Mark Lankford	1
Nathan Lembke	1	Holly Hook	1
Tyler Cheek	1	Emily Kroll	
Taylor Allen	1	Shelli Kerr	

1. Open Meeting – Ralph Weber brings meeting to order, 10:00
 - a. Approval of March Minutes. Ralph Weber asks for a motion to approve. Mark Lankford motions, Helen Lampkin seconds. All vote in favor.

2. New Business
 - a. Tree Giveaway recap – Ralph Weber opens discussion. Key points in the retrospection include that the location worked well, in spite of traffic backing up to Walton Blvd. There were issues with people finding the event, with some going to the back of the complex instead of the front. In future events, more signage will be posted online notifying people where to access the event. Issues with the event include a perceived lack of equality with the number of trees people received, an individual walking up to take the trees, and how rapidly we ran out of trees and had to turn people away. Suggested fixes for these issues include limiting the number of trees per vehicle, requiring that a person or a representative be physically present to receive trees, starting the event earlier at 7:30, and increasing the number of trees available through our partnership with Compton Gardens. After debate amongst the committee on which solutions would be best to implement, it was decided that city staff should reach out to Compton Gardens to see about increasing the number of trees, reach out to other cities’ tree committees to learn more about their giveaways, and once those have been accomplished the committee will discuss implementation of new rules closer to the fall event in October.
 - b. Library event update – Sarah Geurtz will be speaking at the library on native plants and landscaping on May 21st. Committee members should make every effort to attend.
 - c. Educational events – Staff will arrange another speaking event for the Summer. Staff will also create a ‘tree bingo’ as a passive event with the library in partnership with the Parks department and the library.
 - d. Other business – Ralph Weber requests that Tyler Cheek give a few words at each meeting about the status of city trees to the committee. For this month’s update, Tyler Cheek informs the committee on reforestation efforts, getting 400-500 trees and seedlings planted in the city, and that a grant is covering the cost of that. Tyler Cheek also mentions that there’s been emerald ash bore and gloomy scale found in city parks, and that residents should check their own trees for pests or blight.

The committee brings up the topic of tree maintenance in the city, and that perhaps the committee could spend some of their budget on buying tree care equipment for volunteer efforts to upkeep trees.

3. Adjournment – Ralph Weber calls for motion to adjourn. Mark Lankford motions to adjourn, Reagan Roth seconds. All vote in favor. Meeting is adjourned at 11:23.