

Tree and Landscape Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2026

10:00 a.m.

Council Chambers, 305 SW A Street

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85428847432>

AGENDA

Members	Attendance	Staff	Attendance
1 Reagan Roth	In person	Shelli Kerr, Comprehensive Planning Manager	In person
2 Gulizar Baggson	Absent	Audrey Mitchell, Planner	In person
3 Helen Lampkin	In person	Baylea Birchfield, Planner II	Online
4 Nathan Lembke	In person	Tyler Overstreet, Planning Director	In person
5 Ralph Weber, Chairperson	In person	Tyler Cheek, Horticulturist	In person
6 Jeannie McIntire	In person	Haley Deatherage, Horticulturist	In person
7 Mark Lankford	In person		
Holly Hook, Ex-officio	In person		

1. Call to Order-

Ralph began the meeting at 10:00 am

2. Approval of Minutes - June 18, 2026 *

Mark motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Helen seconded.

All in favor, motion carried 6-0

OLD BUSINESS

3. Native and Pollinator Landscape Ordinance Update

- Shelli met with City Council on 6/23. Currently drafting proposal (Shelli shared with board) but said it is shifting more so towards an amendment to the property maintenance code. Not focusing on plant type as much as location on property - Allowing for exceptions to 8 in rule but needs to be in planting bed or 5 ft setback. Must be free of noxious weeds and out of right of ways. Shelli anticipates presenting final draft to council in early August, and if approved it will go into effect 30 days after.*
- Helen inquires if already established native/pollinator landscapes will be grandfathered in if this proposal goes through. Shelli says no and if a complaint is received the property owner will have to comply with the ordinance.*
- Reagan proposes more visibility of ordinance to public, as well as using clear language. Shelli agrees and recommends including more information on websites, including imagery.*

4. Fall Tree Giveaway Update

- *Will be held morning of October 10 at the Municipal Complex.*
- *Still comparing quotes from two vendors (Forest Keeling and Greenleaf). Ralph emphasized that Forest Keeling trees are native, while Greenleaf are not. Will have a list of trees to present to board by next month's meeting.*
- *Nathan suggests announcing tree heights ahead of time so to set expectations and better prepare those picking up. Baylea confirms trees are delivered about a week before the giveaway and we can make the announcement then.*
- *Reagan suggests preparing a backup plan in case of inclement weather.*

NEW BUSINESS

5. Landscape Nominations – four residential and one commercial

- *Shelli cautions that two residential nominations are native landscapes and it may be better to table these until after the final ordinance has gone to council. Ralph agrees and withdraws his nomination. Other native lawn is discussed – looks pretty but not in accordance with maintenance codes.*
- *Mark motioned to award 1700 Mystic Avenue the residential landscape award. Reagan seconded. All in favor, motion passed 6-0.*
- *Reagan motioned to award The Compton at 200 E Central Avenue the commercial landscape award. Mark seconded. All in favor, motioned passed 6-0.*

OTHER BUSINESS

6. Parks Updates

- *Haley shared Gateway Park will be opening in phases.*
- *Holly stated that the artwork in Creekside Park is being updated, Shelli shared that the Public Art Board is working on the replacement.*
- *Ralph mentioned park's pickleball courts are always busy and Tyler shared that there are plans for more courts.*

7. Planning Updates

- *Shelli asks board members to spread the word about the America250 student art project.*

8. Other

- *Reagan checks in on any updates to potential partnership between the city's cleanup day and clearing out invasive species. Shelli says it's an issue of location – invasive species on private property is tricky and city property is usually maintained by crews. Tyler shares that Parks and Rec offers volunteer work and he would be willing to inquire about offering some sort of related event. Tyler also shared information on a free invasive species workshop in Fayetteville. Reagan acknowledges there may be room in the board's budget to award native trees to volunteers.*

ADJOURNMENT

Mark motioned to adjourn.

*Jeannie seconded. All in favor,
motion carried 6-0.*

Meeting ended at 11:01 am.