



Parks, Trees, and Trails Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes January 21, 2026

Committee Present Jan Diamantine, Linda Ziedrich, Rick Barnett, Rodney Sell, and Cindy Kerby and City Councilor Dave Workman

Committee Absent None

Staff Present Public Works Operations Manager, Jason Rush

Call to Order Chair Barnett called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. in the Library Community Meeting Room.

Approval of Minutes The committee approved the meeting minutes from September 17, 2025.

Discussion

- City Update

Jason Rush provided the City of Lebanon update:

- Annual street tree trimming is underway throughout the city. Door hangers have been distributed to notify residents in advance of work occurring near their properties.
- Ralston Park improvements are underway. Concrete work will be completed at the site, and a flagpole is planned for installation. The site will also support seasonal use, including the “Megatree,” a 39-foot holiday tree with lighting used during Holidays in the Park. The base for the Megatree has been installed.
- Cheadle Lake Phase 1 has begun and includes utility extensions into the park and associated street improvements. This phase is not expected to significantly impact park use, though activity in the area will increase. Phase 2 of the park improvements is being finalized in coordination with Knife River, the City’s general contractor, and is anticipated to begin this summer following the Strawberry Festival.

- Weyerhaeuser Tree Planting Opportunity:

Staff and committee members discussed the Weyerhaeuser tree planting opportunity:

- Linda Ziedrich, along with BLT, identified an opportunity in coordination with American Forests and community partners to receive \$25,000 in funding for planting of trees and completing purchase of a water trailer.
- This project would complete tree planting events throughout 2026, with a goal of planting approximately 140 trees, including 36 trees at Mark Slough, 6 trees at River Park, 30 trees at Academy Square, 14 trees at Christopher Columbus Park, and 53 trees at Cheadle Lake. (trees at Cheadle Lake will be planted in

coordination with the planned construction timeline.

- The City will complete site preparation for the plantings. BLT, the Lebanon Garden Club, and additional volunteers will assist with planting efforts.
- The grant also includes the purchase of a water trailer to support ongoing watering and maintenance of the newly planted trees.
- The committee expressed support for the funding and proposed projects.
- BLT Update – Rod / Jan
 - BLT recently completed their 1-, 3-, 5-, and 10-year plan.
 - BLT provided a new map outlining their event schedule for the 2026 year.
 - BLT stated they attended Connect Linn County and anticipate increased volunteer participation.
- **Public Comments**
 - None

Next Scheduled Meeting

March 18, 2026 (2:00 – 3:00 p.m.) – Library Community Room

Adjournment

Rick Barnett adjourned the meeting at 2:21 p.m.