

City of Lake Forest Park – Tree Board Meeting
Meeting Minutes: August 6, 2025; 7:00-9:00pm
Hybrid Meeting Held in the Forest Room at City Hall and Virtually via Zoom

Tree Board Members present: Victoria Kutasz, Richard Saunders (via Zoom), Stacey Spain, Doug Sprugel

Staff and others present: Elizabeth Talavera, Assistant Planner; Linda Holman, Parks Board

Members of the Public present: Drue Epping

Tree Board Members absent: Richard Olmstead and Mark Phillips

Call to order: Vice Chair Kutasz called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Short Reflection: Board member Spain gave a short reflection on hiking the Wonderland trail on Mount Rainer.

Introductions: All members of the Tree Board and public introduced themselves.

Approval of Meeting Agenda: Vice Chair Kutasz proposed editing the agenda to include a presentation by Ms. Holman and to switch the order of old and new business. Board member Sprugel motioned to approve the agenda; Board member Spain seconded. The agenda was approved unanimously with the amended changes.

Approval of Minutes: Board member Spain motioned to approve the May 2025 minutes; Board member Sprugel seconded. The May 2025 minutes were approved unanimously.

Board member Spain motioned to approve the July 2025 minutes; Board member Sprugel seconded. The July 2025 minutes were approved unanimously.

Public Comment: No public comments.

Next meeting: The next meeting occurs on Wednesday, September 03, 2025.

Reports and Announcements:

City Staff Update

Ms. Talavera gave an update on the hiring process for the urban forest planner, noting that the process is moving quickly. Ms. Talavera also mentioned that the city is currently in the process of transitioning to a new permitting software system. Ms. Talavera also mentioned that council member Goldman had sent an email for his announcement about the city's new levy tax.

New Business:

Blue Heron Park

Ms. Holman presented a map of Blue Heron Park to highlight the proposed project of cleaning up the park and removing invasive trees with the help of city staff and volunteers. Board member Spain volunteered to assist with the project. Vice Chair Kutasz volunteered to create flyers to handout during upcoming events,

1
2 **Old Business:**

3 SFI grant - status, follow-up

4 Chair Phillips, Vice Chair Kutasz, and Mike from SFI will be meeting to discuss next steps, including
5 what the Tree Board wants to prioritize for the remainder of the money.
6

7 Draft climate element feedback

8 The Tree Board members discussed edits to the draft climate feedback. Edits include changing the
9 verbiage from “heritage trees” to “exceptional trees”, data research, and drought resistant trees.
10 Chair Phillips and Vice Chair Kutasz discussed putting the edits in the draft tool.
11

12 King Conservation 21 District canopy assessment - status, follow-up

13 The Tree Board members discussed the different options of layers and maps for the canopy
14 assessment. Ms. Epping showed the Tree Board members different examples of other cities
15 including Burien and Bothell.
16

17 Tree Ordinance follow-up

18 Tabled for next meeting.
19

20 Outeach Opportunities

21 Picnic in the Park, Sept. 6, 11 am - 3pm

22 Farmers Market Table (shared with the Climate Action Committee), Oct. 5, 10 am - 2 pm

23 The Tree Board members discussed the times for members to be stationing the booths.
24

25 **Agenda for Next Meeting:** The Board will be discussing SFI grant - follow-up, King Conservation
26 District canopy assessment - follow-up, and the Tree Ordinance follow-up.
27

28 **Adjournment:** Board member Saunders motioned to end the meeting and board member Spain
29 seconded.
30

31 Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM
32

33 APPROVED:

34
35 _____
36 Mark Phillips, Chair
37
38