



URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

August 27, 2026 at 3:00 PM

Council Chambers at City Hall - 1123 W. Lake St. Sandpoint, Idaho

Call to Order

Commission Chair Mose Dunkel called the special meeting of the Urban Forestry Commission to order at 3:12 p.m. on Thursday, August 27, 2026, in Council Chambers at City Hall, 1123 W. Lake Street Sandpoint, Idaho.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Chase Youngdahl

Preston Andrews

Paige Belfry

Mose Dunkel

ABSENT

Geoff Gregory

Also present were staff liaison Erik Bush, and Public Works Administrative Assistant Sam Chin, serving as board clerk. Council Liaison Joe Tate was Absent

Meeting Minutes Approval

1. The minutes from the Commission's July 30th, 2026, were tabled until next meeting

Old/Unfinished Business

2. Council Direction: Private Property Heritage Tree Incentives

Staff liaison Erik Bush shared that he was able to speak with city planner and city attorney, possible incentives for preserving Heritage Trees. Which could possible include setback changes within property lines. The Commission then discussed possible problems with incentives and how they could create hindrances in the future. The commission discussed ways that would strictly include voluntary incentives. The commission will revisit this point next meeting and vote on an list of voluntary incentives for City Council.

3. Discussion: Voluntary Heritage Tree Program

The commission discussed how the heritage tree program would select and honor trees that could be submitted via city website. They commission discussed in future meetings how they would move forward in the future selecting heritage trees.

New Business - None

General Announcements/Comments

Chair Dunkel raised concerns in regards to Cedar Street Reconstruction and possible damage to a tree within the tree protection zone. Mr. Bush let the commission know that there was no significant damage to the tree along with trees within the tree protection zone. The commission

also discussed trees within the City Parking lot and their general health. Staff Liaison Bush gave an update on the tree inventory within City Limits stating that vital information is being collected from the new inventory.

Adjourn

With no further business on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 4:39 p.m.

I presided over this meeting and can confirm that these minutes, prepared by the board clerk, were approved by the Commission during their meeting on _____, 2026

Mose Dunkel, Board Chair

Attest: Sam Chin, Public Works Admin Asst.