

Berkley Tree Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, May 27, 2025

Time: 7:03 PM – 7:58 PM

Attendance

Present: T. Losey (Chair), S. Bard, D. Hennen, L. Fritsch (Vice Chair), G. Elrod (Secretary), B. Lathrop, F. Foen

Absent: E. Fogle, A. Wozniak

Additional Visitors: None

Agenda Items:

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- The minutes from the April 24, 2025 meeting were reviewed and approved.

2. Public Comments

- No public comments were received.

3. Approval of Agenda

- The agenda was reviewed and approved as presented.

4. Old Business

- **Berkley Farmers Market:** Still on hold pending permit approval. O'Mara's has offered its parking lot for Saturday events, also contingent on City permitting. The Tree Board is exploring alternative community engagement opportunities, including participation in the Street Art Fest, Berkley Pride, and Bookley events.
- **Bacon Park Arbor Day Trees (2019):** Trees planted during the 2019 Arbor Day are not thriving. No current update on potential remediation or next steps.
- **DTE Grant – Spring Planting:** 30 residents have applied for trees made available from the DTE grant program this spring.
- **Coolidge Street Trees – Mulching Project:** Progress has been positive. Excess mulch has been removed and proper mulching levels restored.

5. DPW Update

- **Tree Application Page:** The online tree request form will remain open for the fall planting season, following successful spring participation.

- **Franks Landscaping (Mulching Contractor)** - DPW is satisfied with mulching progress and confident that remaining work will be completed per recommended guidelines.

6. New Business

- **Tree Guards – Oxford Park:** Board will consult with DPW on options to install guards to protect new trees from mower and other physical damage.
- **2024 Tree Board Status Report:** Submitted to the City by Chair T. Losey.
- **Library Pear Trees:** L. Fritsch noted the declining condition of the pear trees surrounding the Berkley Public Library and recommended replacement as part of new plantings along the adjacent Greenbelt.

7. City Council Update – D. Hennen

- The UCF IRA grant announcement has been delayed, with decisions now expected in late May or early June.

8. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.

Next Meeting: Monday, June 23, 2025, at 7:00 PM.