



**Urban Tree Board
Regular Meeting
November 4, 2025 - 2:00 PM
Classroom, Auburn Community and
Events Center**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order: 2:05pm

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- A. The Urban Tree Board Meeting scheduled for Tuesday November 4th, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. will be held in person and virtually.

Virtual Participation Link:

To listen to the meeting by phone or Zoom, please call the number below or click the link:

Telephone: 253-215-8782

Toll Free: 253-205-0468

Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87066224771?pwd=GbqaTOKHzHp8x3FJWr7UUDVh56ubUc.1>

ROLL CALL

Attendance: Chairperson Bryce Landrud, Vice-Chairperson Linda Bielejec, Member James Tournageau, & Member Benjamin Woodhouse

Staff: Parks Planning Manager Thaniel Gouk, Administrative Assistant Alexa Bragg

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. The public can participate in-person or submit written comments in advance. Participants can submit written comments via mail, fax, or email. All written comments must be received prior to 5:00 p.m. on the day before the scheduled meeting and must be 350 words or less.

Please mail written comments to:

City of Auburn

Attn: Alexa Bragg. Parks Administrative Assistant

25 W Main St

Auburn, WA 98001

Please fax written comments to:

Attn: Alexa Bragg. Parks Administrative Assistant

Fax number: 253-931-4005

Email written comments to: abragg@auburnwa.gov

If an individual requires accommodation to allow for remote oral comment because of a difficulty attending a meeting of the governing body, the City requests notice of the need for accommodation by 2:00 p.m. on the day before the scheduled meeting. Participants can request accommodation to be able to provide a remote oral comment by contacting the Parks, Arts and Recreation Department in person, by phone (253) 931-3043, or by email (abragg@auburnwa.gov).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of October 15th Special Tree Board Minutes

Chairperson Bryce Landrud motioned for approval of October 15th Special Tree Board Meeting Minutes, Vice-Chair Linda Bielejec second the motion and the Special Meeting Minutes passed for approval.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, REPORTS, AND PRESENTATIONS

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Vote on the 2025 Heritage Tree

The Dogwood Tree on M St & Main St was voted on and approved as the 2025 Heritage Tree. The proclamation will be entered and the tree board will be made aware of the Council meeting date the proclamation will be presented.

ACTION ITEMS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Chairperson Bryce Landrud talks about the unfinished business for his potential Tree Climbing competition. He states he spoke to the Events & Marketing Manager Kristy Pachciarz & Special Events Coordinator Amanda Valdez about the potential event. Bryce states that the above-mentioned staff were excited but had concerns about this going through legal and risk management. Parks Planning Manager Thaniel Gouk stated that he would fill out the Special Events Permitting application online. This is for a regional tree climbing competition. Bryce states this will be in July or August of next year. The organization will advertise this event, the Auburn Parks Department will potentially host it at Les Gove Park.

Member Benjamin Woodhouse talked about how he reached out to Auburn's planning department regarding the GSA lot and what the tree board's role is regarding tree management when it comes to private development in the City of Auburn. Park Planning Manager Thaniel states that Senior Planner Alyssa Tatro will speak to the Tree Board in January regarding the GSA development. Member Benjamin wonders if the board duties could be amended in the future. Chairperson Bryce Landrud states that the City of Auburn does not necessarily have a tree code. Member Benjamin Woodhouse states that the board could have a say in the future when trees are cut down.

A. Discussions of replacing Weeping Willow Tree at Les Gove Park

Park Planner Thaniel Gouk states that the 2020 Weeping Willow that was planted did die, but Parks Maintenance (Stefanie Coleman) will purchase a new Weeping Willow for this year and re-plant in Les Gove park.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Potential Tree Giveaway Ideas for 2026-2027

Chairperson Bryce Landrud states that he wasn't able to get into contact with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources regarding a tree giveaway program, and that it may take a grant writer to obtain trees for the tree giveaway. Chair Bryce states that we could potentially have a space on our website where we market and advertise a tree giveaway, especially with the Farmers Market booth for next summer. This would be a way to get involved with the community and increase the tree canopy of Auburn. There is a webpage the tree board has referenced where the Auburn Tree Board could follow suit. [Great Tree Search Nomination Form : NYC Parks](#)

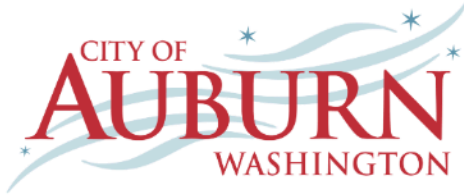
ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 2:51pm

APPROVED this ____ day of _____ 2024.

Thaniel Gouk, Director of Board

Alexa Bragg, Administrative Assistant



**Urban Tree Board
Special Meeting
October 15, 2025 - 2:00 PM
Classroom, Auburn Community and
Events Center**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Bryce Landrud called the meeting to order at 2:08pm

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- A. The Special Urban Tree Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, October 15th, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. will be held in person and virtually.

Virtual Participation Link:

To listen to the meeting by phone or Zoom, please call the number below or click the link:

Telephone: 253-215-8782

Toll Free: 253-205-0468

Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84249146441?pwd=f1EDYva6tbZvgc5g5YgwJguPabOCHk.1>

ROLL CALL

Attendance: Chairperson Bryce Landrud, Vice-Chair Linda Bielejec, Board member Benjamin Woodhouse

Excused: Board Member James Tournageau

Staff: Parks Planning Manager Thaniel Gouk, Administrative Assistant Alexa Bragg

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Approval of July 8th Minutes

ANNOUNCEMENTS, REPORTS, AND PRESENTATIONS

- A. Recap of Chairperson Bryce Landrud's attendance at PNW- ISA annual training conference and tree climbing championships

Chairperson Bryce Landrud speaks about his attendance at the PNW-International Society of Arborists annual training conference in Portland, OR. He states that there was a need for more availability of park spaces for their tree climbing competition for the PNW-ISA. Bryce was thinking of working with the Auburn Parks Department in finding some space for the 2026 annual conference. The tree climbing championship is the weekend prior to the conference. There are three primary groups of members that attend this conference: commercial arborist, municipal arborist, and utility arborist. Chair Bryce Landrud is going to speak to the Special Events team at the Auburn Parks Department regarding the tree climbing competition.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Introduce new Tree Board Member Benjamin Woodhouse

Member Benjamin Woodhouse introduces himself to the tree board. He states he was looking for various ways to get involved in the community and support a healthy environment in the City of Auburn.

- B. Nominations and Discussion of 2025 Heritage Tree Options

Chairperson Bryce Landrud brings forward a Heritage Tree, the Dogwood Tree on East Main St & M St. This will be voted on in the next meeting. Vice-Chair Linda Bielejec brings forward a Weeping Willow tree.

Board member Benjamin Woodhouse asks about the background of what a heritage tree is, and Chairperson Bryce Landrud explains that Heritage Trees are a way to connect with the community and celebrate the tree, manage canopy cover, but do not offer protection for the tree. Vice-Chair Linda states we hope it gives people a sense of pride, a sense of community and garners interest in future heritage trees.

- C. Farmers Market Tabling Notes and Suggestions from Chairperson Bryce Landrud

Chairperson Bryce Landrud talks about the Farmer's Market he attended. He set up a table at the Auburn Farmers Market in August. Bryce had information pamphlets to hand out to farmers market attendees and talk to people face-to-face. He states that he was in the Les Gove Multipurpose building from 10am–12pm, and then went and talked to the Master Gardener. Bryce was thinking the board would have a booth with the heritage tree map on the poster board along with information flyers (about the tree board and joining the tree board) for maybe one or two days next summer at the Auburn Farmers Market. He is thinking we have interactive maps to give out. Member Benjamin Woodhouse states could we give away tree saplings at the Farmers Market, to maintain and improve the city of Auburn's tree canopy. Chairperson Bryce Landrud states they are available and we could look into getting tree saplings donated to hand out to the Farmers Market. Chairperson Bryce asked to keep this as a standing agenda item going forward.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Bryce Landrud moved to adjourn at 3:15pm

APPROVED this ____ day of _____ 2025.

Thaniel Gouk, Director of Board

Alexa Bragg, Administrative Assistant