

Tree Commission Meeting Minutes
October 7, 2025 – 4:00 PM
Korte Recreation Center

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM.

Motion to open the meeting made by **Kathryn Comish**, seconded by **Larry Brammer**.

Roll Call:

- Thomas Friedrich
- Jill Lawson
- Linda Montayne
- Kathryn Comish
- Mindy Stoff
- Larry Brammer
- Kurt Vonder Haar – *Absent*

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve the minutes of the **April 1, 2025** Tree Commission meeting was made and carried.

Requests from the Community:

- None
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Unfinished Business:

- The Commission is reviewing pricing from several local businesses for refurbishing the **“Welcome to Highland”** signs and improving landscaping around them. Kathryn reported she had obtained estimates for repainting the reflective entrance signs.
 - Plans are in place for **Andrea Garson**, a master gardener who maintained the Plaza Park planter boxes this year, to plant the flower pots around the Square next year.
 - The idea of reviving the **Spring Bloom Festival** remains tabled at this time.
 - Discussion was held regarding the **Boy Scouts** possibly hosting a clean-up day at **Silver Lake Park**.
 - The Commission plans to revisit the idea of a **Community Tree Program**.
 - The **Pioneer Newspaper** may be used as a tool to distribute tree-related information to the public.
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New Business:

- Discussed several ways to improve community outreach and public education, including using the **Pioneer Newspaper** and the **Highland Happenings App**.
 - Consideration was given to creating a **Community Christmas Tree** for the public to help decorate.
 - **Tree planting recommendations** for the Square include:
 - *Zelkova Green Vase*, 2" B&B
 - *Tulip 'Emerald City'*, #15 Gallon (great fall color)
 - *Nyssa Sylvatica 'Tupelo Black Gum'*, 2" B&B (no gum balls, exceptional color)
 - The **evergreen on the southeast corner** of the Square will need to be replaced.
 - **Jim Miller** will be asked to inspect the large tree on the **northeast corner** of the Square to determine if the existing split can be repaired.
 - Plans are in place to remove **two trees at the cemetery** and replace them with **bald cypress** trees to match the existing plantings.
 - The **arborvitae at the library** will be transplanted behind the backstop at the **Optimist Field in Glik Park**.
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Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn was made and approved. The meeting was adjourned at **5:30 PM**.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, **December 2, 2025**, at the **Korte Recreation Center**.