

Tree Commission Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2026 – 4:00 PM
Korte Recreation Center

Call to Order

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

A motion to open the meeting was made by **Kathryn Comish** and seconded by **Linda Montayne**.

Roll Call

Present:

- Thomas Friedrich
- Jill Lawson
- Linda Montayne
- Kathryn Comish
- Mindy Stoff

Absent:

- Larry Brammer
 - Kurt Vonder Haar
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Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by **Linda Montayne** and seconded by **Kathryn Comish** to approve the minutes of the **December 2, 2025** Tree Commission meeting.

Requests from the Community

- None
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Unfinished Business

- Tree planting took place at the Square after the Christmas decorations were removed in early January. The trees planted include:
 - Two Zelkovas near the locations where ash trees were removed the previous year
 - One Tulip Tree planted on the east side of the fountain
 - Parks and Recreation staff removed two dead trees at the cemetery by cutting and offering the wood to the public for free pickup. One additional tree remains to be removed at a later date when staff availability allows.
 - The arborvitae at the library will no longer be transplanted to Glik Park due to the cost, the size of the tree spade required, and the risk of losing the trees in the process. The Commission is awaiting an update from library staff.
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New Business

- Public Works has hired **DigitalArtz** to restore the “Welcome to Highland” signs and **Brian Korte** to redo the landscape rock around each sign. Plants will no longer be installed due to maintenance demands.
- The Parks and Recreation Department conducted extensive tree pruning during December and early January at Silver Lake, Rinderer, Glik Park, and the Cemetery.
- The Farmers Market will return this year, with consideration being given to renaming it to something like “Community Market” to attract a wider variety of vendors.
- The “See My Legacy” program will be adapted to help generate funds, promote events, and introduce the use of software to sell memorial picnic tables.
- The Korte Recreation Center (KRC) will celebrate its 25-year silver anniversary, and a description of planned events was announced.
- The Peter Korte Pavilion received improvements, including staining the gazebo wood, power washing the area, and repainting the picnic tables.

- Parks and Recreation staff also took advantage of warmer weather to mulch areas in need of attention at Silver Lake.
 - Plans are in place for **Andrea Garson**, a master gardener who maintained the Plaza Park planter boxes this year, to also add hanging baskets around the Square. **Mindy Stoff** will contact her to determine if assistance is needed.
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Commission Member Requests

- Members suggested having a second set of plants ready for the hanging flower pots that encircle the Square.
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Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by **Kathryn Comish** and seconded by **Jill Lawson**. The meeting adjourned at **5:32 PM**.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, April 7, 2026
Korte Recreation Center

Remaining 2026 Meeting Dates

- Tuesday, October 6
- Tuesday, December 1