



# TOWN OF ERIE

645 Holbrook Street  
Erie, CO 80516

## Meeting Minutes Tree Advisory Board

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Wednesday, September 10, 2025

6:30 PM

Virtual via Zoom

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### **1. Call Meeting to Order @ 6:37 pm**

### **2. Roll Call and Verification of Quorum**

- A. Jason Shimmel (Chair), present
- Claudia Smelko (Vice Chair), present
- Leanne Vielehr (Secretary), present
- Amy Demeyer, Excused
- Patricia O'Donnell, present
- Taylor Thomson, present
- Nathan Ruane, present
- Erie Council Liaisons: Brian O'Connor and Emily Baer

### **3. Approval of the Agenda**

- A. Approve agenda.
  - a) Motion: Leanne
  - b) Second: Taylor

### **4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

- A. August 2025 Tree Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
  - a) Motion: Claudia
  - b) Second: Nathan
- B. Jason to send approved minutes to Erie Town Clerk

### **5. Public Comments**

- A. Public Comment:
  - 1) none

### **6. General Business**

- A. Erie Air Fair
  - 1) Claudia, Amy, Jason and Patty attended.
  - 2) It was a well attended event, lots of people swinging by the booth.
  - 3) About half of the people that came to the booth were not Erie residents so could only share the tree rebate information with about half the people, but still good timing for the rebates. Steady stream of people from 10 to 1pm.
  - 4) Tree cookie necklaces were very popular, ran out of supplies (cords and tree slices)
  - 5) Our booth location worked well, joint booth with SAB worked too.
  - 6) Need more swag to give away.
    - a) Can use our remaining budget for swag (Discuss in Nov.)
    - b) Jason to reach out to Tom regarding when the Board budget for 2026 gets approved.
  - 7) Water station would have been good. Can share feedback with Airport Advisory Board.
  - 8) Claudia got a contact for a face painter for Arbor Day Event
- B. Tree Talk Newsletter – October 1<sup>st</sup> deadline
  - 1) Claudia is writing about Aspens (pros/cons) and will include alternatives
  - 2) Jason will be doing a write up regarding Fruit Tree Rescue

- 3) Tom has added an easier way to sign up for newsletter on the TAB website.
- C. 2024-2025 Planting the Future
- 1) Jason has reached out to all the schools about 3 weeks ago and has not gotten any takers yet.
  - 2) A teacher who is now at a school in Frederick reached out to see if she can still get a kit
    - a) We can't cross municipal borders but we could provide a supply list and file to the tree posters to help her recreate it. She could also reach out to her Town about creating a school outreach.
    - b) Can we create flyers to promote the program? We could print flyers and ask to have them put into the teacher's mail boxes.
    - c) Jason will work with Tom to create a flyer.
    - d) Jason will also reach out to the teachers again in November and then again in February.
    - e) Can create "Planting the Future" stickers
- D. 2025 Trees Walks
- 1) September 5<sup>th</sup> – Old Town
    - a) Terry did Tree Walk. About 13 people attended, mostly Town people but only 2 of them were from the public
    - b) There were good questions and the public was well engaged.
  - 2) October 3<sup>rd</sup> – cemetery
- E. Fruit Tree Rescue Update
- 1) Have 6 people signed up (remaining collections will happen in the next couple weeks)
  - 2) 1<sup>st</sup> collection was on August 30<sup>th</sup> for plums
  - 3) 2<sup>nd</sup> collection was yesterday for apples
  - 4) Grade A goes to Erie Food Bank and Community Food Share took some (in Broomfield but serves Erie)
  - 5) Jason to share photos
- F. Bi-Annual Report
- 1) Claudia gave presentation, it went well.
- G. Linear Park Update
- 1) Jason to ask Tom/Mike if there is a design already for Linear Park
  - 2) 3 boards mentioned Linear Park
  - 3) Claudia will help write some notes/talking points to continue to talk about it
    - a) Railbike is in support of the Linear Park project.
  - 4) Phase the project: focus on the pathway and trees first
    - a) Potential funding: Grants or asking BNSF if they are will to donate to the park. Potential historic and community outreach opportunities for BNSF. Did Union Pacific share the depot? See if Mike from HPAB knows more.
- H. 2026 Arbor Day/Earth Day Celebration
- 1) Priorities: labeling tables and additional speakers for PA system so vendors on the basketball court can hear
  - 2) Swag: need more stickers, work with staff on logo for "Planting the Future" for stickers (Jason to check in w/ Tom)
  - 3) Could have a tree planting station at Arbor Day
  - 4) Could make kids T-shirts w/ "Planting the Future" logo
- I. Pollinator District
- 1) Has anyone spent time looking at the rubric and how close we are to earning the designation of a pollinator district for any of our park areas.
    - a) Jason to do some more digging.
  - 2) Are there trees we can recommend or plant to help support a district?
- J. Other business
- 1) None

**7. Adjournment @ 7:50 pm**

A. *Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 8th at 6:30pm - In-person at Town Hall  
Community Room*

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**Tree Advisory Board**