

Tree Advisory and Education Board Minutes 5/14/2025

Attendees: Linda Grandstaff, Allison Welch, Patrick Costello, Brian Dawson, Bryan Evans, Rita Stevens, Alex Martin

The meeting started at 6:00 pm. Following a motion by Rita and second by Allison, the minutes were approved as submitted.

The board debriefed on the tree giveaway. The names and addresses of residents who took unclaimed trees will be added to the list for mapping and follow-up. The board discussed the lower uptake on large canopy trees, likely due to the smaller properties in much of Lakewood and the planting cautions included on the website. Including more information on time until challenges might occur were discussed as well as continuing to have a higher percentage of smaller trees available.

The board discussed the tree contest, which was held for three years with the Lakewood Observer, but with declining submissions. It was an initial outreach effort that the board decided has run its course. Linda will reach out to thank the Lakewood Observer for its support and to let them know that we will be working on other efforts on educating residents on the importance and benefits of trees to the community. The board will also focus efforts on the Community Arboretum concept. The board will provide suggestions for the mission of the arboretum to Allison. Other outreach will include participation in the Community Festival on 9/6, the fall tree giveaway and the Welcome to Lakewood event on 11/12. Rita will look into some other communities efforts related to deer damage.

The Forestry Department update the board on the completion of the spring tree planting and hazardous tree removals. The team includes 3 arborists and will be getting seasonal help in June to assist with new tree watering.

The board also discussed the fall tree giveaway timing and is looking at either October 4 or 11 for the pickup date. It was agreed that 200 trees continues to be appropriate.

Linda suggested that as has been done in the past, the board have a potluck dinner in July in lieu of the regular meeting. It will be held at Linda's home, will include spouse, partners or significant others and the Forestry team and Bryan are also invited to attend. More details will follow.

Bryan has request the board look at some of the tree information available to residents and ensure that it is as up to date and comprehensive as possible.

The meeting ended at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Linda Grandstaff, chair/secretary