

Urban Forestry Commission Minutes
Regular Meeting
June 11, 2025

1. Call to Order of the Urban Forestry Commission

Co-Chairperson Lugene Jones called the regular meeting of the Urban Forestry Commission to order at 4:31 PM, Wednesday, May 14, 2025, in Matt Terry Hall at the Public Safety Center (100 E First St) in Edmond, Oklahoma. The agenda for this meeting was posted in the City First Administration Building on June 6, 2025 at 12:47 PM.

Members Present: Co-Chairs Lugene Jones and Kurt Atkinson, Ed Cunliff, Dena Blecker and Justin Scott.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Leigh Martin and Ava Zrenda

2. Consideration of Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Ed Cunliff, seconded by Dena Blecker to approve meeting minutes from April 9, 2025.

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Introduction of Guests.

John Harkess, Edmond Citizen.

4. Urban Forestry Progress Report.

Leigh Martin gave an overview of information in the Urban Forestry Activity Report.

- Collaborated with the Edmond Library for tree identification classes.
- Met with UCO to discuss Tree Campus Higher Education and possible tree planting partnerships through Edmond ReLeaf Program.
- Inspections for the public tree pruning cycle on Broadway from 15th to Comfort Dr and Littler from 13th to 15th.
- Urban Forestry Specialist position going through onboarding process, will meet at next meeting.
- July 9th meeting will be cancelled, and August meeting will be in new City Hall building.

5. Consideration of Approval of Edmond Legacy Tree Nomination.

Multi-trunk Post Oak in Johnson Park on UCO campus was nominated by Leigh Martin and Raziel Polach.

Motion made by Dena Blecker, seconded by Ed Cunliff.

Motion passed unanimously.

6. Consideration of Adoption of Updates to Criteria for Alternately Qualified Professionals for Landscape Design.

Leigh Martin and Ava Zrenda discussed the changes and updates to the criteria.

Motion to adopt the updates to Criteria for Alternatively Qualified Professionals for Landscape Designs made by Ed Cunliff, seconded by Justin Scott.

Motion passed unanimously.

7. Consideration of Adoption of Updates to the Community Forestry Plan.

There were questions about the Urban Forestry website and how it is being utilized for community outreach.

Motion made by Dena Blecker, seconded by Justin Scott to approve.

Motion passed unanimously.

8. Discussion of 2025 Urban Forestry Commission Goals.

- Connect tree planting efforts with the Route 66 Centennial celebration.
- Develop an education campaign on Firewise land management practices.
- Partner with a nonprofit to obtain funding and support for Urban Forestry Commission projects.
- Plan potential educational programming for the Charles D. Lamb Nature Preserve.

9. Citizen Comments.

John Harkess came to the meeting to get a better understanding of the commission and its duties within the community.

10. Comments from the Urban Forestry Commission Chair and Members.

Asheford Oakes community is concerned about the neighborhood market project and Lugene Jones stated that if you can write a letter or email to the planning commission if you are concerned as well.

11. Adjournment.

Motion made by Ed Cunliff, seconded by Justin Scott to adjourn the Urban Forestry Commission meeting at 5:15 PM.

Motion passed unanimously.



Lugene Jones

Co-Chairperson, Urban Forestry Commission



Kurt Atkinson

Co-Chairperson, Urban Forestry Commission