

**MINUTES  
TREE BOARD  
April 21, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Lisa Paige called the in-person/virtual hybrid meeting to order at 6:00 pm on April 21, 2022, in Room 1 at Town Hall.

**ROLL CALL**

The following members were present for roll call:

Members Present:	Lisa Paige, Chair Dan Bullock, Member Jo Anne Teeple, Member Sky Quarto, Member
Town Staff Present:	Carl Meinecke, Town of Carbondale Staff Liaison Marty Silverstein, Board of Trustees Liaison Kae McDonald, Boards and Commissions Clerk
Guest:	Kari Bevevino, Prospective Tree Board Member

**CONSENT AGENDA**

***Motion Passed:*** Lisa ***moved*** to approve the March 2022 Tree Board minutes. Jo Anne ***seconded*** the motion, and it was ***unanimously approved***.

**PERSONS PRESENT NOT ON THE AGENDA**

There were no persons present not on the agenda to address the Tree Board.

**NEW MEMBER APPLICATION: KARI BEVEVINO**

Kari Bevevino introduced herself by noting that she is a veterinarian that has recently moved to Carbondale from Texas. She noted that in addition to looking for ways to get involved in the community, one motivation for wanting to serve on the Tree Board is the toxicity of certain trees to large animal species.

Jo Anne asked which trees pose a risk in this area.

Kari replied that large quantities of dried maple leaves will induce hemolytic anemia, consuming quantities of pine tree parts can cause abortions in cows, particularly in the third trimester, and Box Elder can cause a toxic reaction in horses. She added that most toxicity is due to the lack of good quality feed.

Jo Anne commented that maples and Box Elders are native in this area and cattle can be found grazing in pinyon complexes throughout the area.

***Motion Passed:*** Dan ***moved*** to recommend Kari Bevevino to the Board of Trustees as a full member of the Tree Board. Sky ***seconded*** the motion, and it was ***unanimously approved***.

**ARBOR DAY**

Carl commented that he was able to have the mayor proclaim Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> as Carbondale Arbor Day. He added that a replacement Linden Tree is scheduled to be planted in Sopris Park on that day. He noted that there had been a request for the tree to also be a memorial tree.

Dan replied that the Kay Brunner Fund will donate half the cost of the tree for a memorial tree.

Marty agreed to approach the family in question.

Dan added that Arbor Day events have historically started at 9 am and coffee and donuts have been served. He noted that Margaret Mathers can create a poster to use for advertisement. He pointed out that there are ten spots on KDNK available for the Tree Board's use and suggested using a few for the event.

Carl added that he will try to make the information available to Spanish speakers.

Lisa asked if there would be anything else to augment the tree planting.

Carl thought the tree planting would be the primary activity and estimated it would take between 30 minutes and 1 hour. He agreed to approach KDNK and the Sopris Sun.

Marty commented that he has a spot every Friday morning and will include the topic. He suggested a one paragraph press release for the Sopris Sun.

Dan agreed to bring juice and suggested a start time of 10 am.

Sky agreed to bring donuts.

Jo Anne agreed to arrange for coffee.

Carl agreed to bring the tent from Public Works.

Jo Anne commented that elm trees are in the noxious weed handbook and for Dandelion Days she would really like to have an elm seed bounty.

Dan replied that it was an interesting problem and noted that the Siberian Elm is the most widely distributed tree in the world and does the best job cleaning the air.

Jo Anne countered that it is a significant problem, and it would be a good way to limit further propagation.

Sky agreed that there is educational value to it. She suggested compiling the information and bags for Dandelion Day.

Dan pointed out that elm trees are a significant part of the canopy in the Old Town Residential and removal is very expensive. He also noted that there are more spruce trees than elm in the public right-of-way. He cautioned that the goal is not the removal of mature trees but rather seedlings.

Sky asked why other trees don't do well near elm trees.

Jo Anne replied that they outcompete everything.

Carl commented that elms also resprout from stumps when they are cut. He thought it would be a long conversation in the future.

Lisa suggested leaving it as an ongoing agenda item.

Jo Anne asked if there are any branches that can be pruned on the tree to be planted at Arbor Day to demonstrate proper pruning.

Carl thought they might be able to find another tree in Sopris Park to demonstrate proper pruning.

### **TREE CLEARANCE STANDARDS UPDATE**

Carl commented that he looked through the Unified Development Code for information on tree clearance standards. He noted that trees must be pruned at least eight feet in the public right-of-way. He indicated an interest to add something to the ordinance to clarify.

Dan pointed out that this topic is a code item versus the ordinance. He agreed that additional information regarding landscaping should be included in the Unified Development Code.

Carl commented that the trick is to allow enough flexibility in the language.

Jo Anne pointed out that most trees are not mature enough to sustain a 15-foot clearance and noted that she has repeatedly pointed out the damage that vans and high-profile vehicles inflict on trees.

Lisa asked if the Tree Board can develop the code language since it is an advisory board.

Dan replied that the Tree Board advises the Board of Trustees on all things trees. He noted that tree standards are provided to everyone applying for a building permit, but there isn't any enforcement. He wondered if they could promote more enforcement with Public Works.

Marty suggested Carl rough out the verbiage and bring it back to the board members for consideration.

Jo Anne commented that she examined the spruce tree that just fell over during a recent high wind event. She noted that while it had good growth at the top, it was hollowed out and came off at the root system when it fell. She pointed out it is the seventh spruce tree that has been knocked over. She added that the earth surrounding the roots was so dry it was like cocoa powder, and with the flag as heavy as it was on top, it couldn't withstand the force of the wind.

Lisa suggested including that information as part of an education campaign.

### **CARL'S TREE REPORT**

Carl noted that taking care of the fallen spruce tree has occupied a good portion of his time, along with stump grinding the trees that were removed a few weeks ago; he will also clean up a crabapple with broken branches in the coming week. He noted that the landscape technician position has been filled. He added that he has picked out trees for replacement planting and with the ditches turned on, they are working on cleaning up the flower beds.

### **DANDELION DAYS**

Marty agreed to check with the Environmental Board for a free table at Dandelion Days on May 14<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 2 pm.

Dan agreed to check on a poster for the event and agreed to be there for a few hours.

Sky commented that she could be there at 9:45 am and stay all day.

Dan added that Carl will get three container trees out of the Tree Board budget for a free drawing. He agreed to print the drawing tickets free of charge. He noted that Carl will arrange with the winners a time to demonstrate the proper way to plant a tree.

Carl thought it would be a good way to develop more public interaction.

Jo Anne voiced her concern about holding private property owners to the same irrigation standards as those for the public right-of-way.

Lisa suggested following up with the drawing winners after a few months.

Marty added that a stipulation for the drawing is that they must be a Town of Carbondale resident.

Dan noted that the Colorado State Forester for this area will be available for Dandelion Days. He added that she suggested digging up the three trees planted for Arbor Day at the Third Street Center to see why they aren't thriving – she has observed many trees are girdling themselves.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The April 21, 2022, regular meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled on May 19, 2022 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kae McDonald  
Town of Carbondale  
Boards and Commissions Clerk