



Tree Board Meeting Minutes - April 01, 2026

The Tree Board regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers at Town Hall, 30 S. Main Street, Weaverville, N.C.

1. Call to Order

Tree Board Members Present: Chairman Russ Kantner, Pauline Griffith, Caleb Hudson, Inger Stallman Jorgensen, William Mobley, and Andrew Shelton.

Absent: Patrice Sheehan and Gary Harmon

Staff Present: Town Clerk Tamara Mercer

Keith Aiken, Arborist at City of Asheville, Eleanor Mrozkowski, Weaverville resident

2. Adopt or Amend Agenda

Inger Stallman Jorgensen moved to adopt the agenda as presented.

Carried unanimously. 6-0.

3. Approval of March 4, 2026 Meeting Minutes

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Bill Mobley moved to adopt the meeting minutes of March 4, 2026 as presented.

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Carried unanimously. 6-0.

4. Arbor Day Program

Chairman Kantner stated he will prepare the tree saplings he ordered for Arbor Day for the public give-away. Keith Aiken, City of Asheville Arborist provided Weaverville with donated trees from Asheville: approximately 10 Butternut trees or *Juglans cinerea*, 50 Red Oak or *Quercus rubra*, 50 White Oak or *Quercus alba*, and 50 Chestnut Oak or *Quercus montana*. Mr. Aitken reviewed care instructions prior to planting as keep in paper sack, dark, and moist.

Inger requested a chair for Jill Totman who is the storyteller in the Arbor Day Program. We will also 'cone off' some close parking spots for guest speakers.

Andrew requested to recuse himself from voting on the High School students' poetry submissions, as their teacher he worked directly on their projects.

Russ Kantner moved to recuse Andrew Shelton from the North Buncombe High School students' poetry submissions.

Carried unanimously. 5-0.

The Tree Board members submitted their poetry selections for Middle School Young Artist Poetry contest for 1st Place- Adler Ramirez, 2nd Place- Quinn Carmody and 3rd Place but there was a tie for the 3rd place winners and both Maeve and Chase were chosen as the winners for 3rd place. High School Young Artist Poetry contest for 1st Place- Adrian Allen, 2nd Place- Pasley Miller and 3rd Place- Pablo Vasquez.

Artwork submission winners were chosen. (Andrew to supply names)

5. Other Business- Tree Board Budget Request for FY:2026-27

The Davey Group tree maintenance and canopy strategy was discussed for budget costs of \$70,000 first year, \$65,000 year two, \$40,000 year three, \$38,000 year four, and \$34,000 year five budget includes priority tree removals, routine pruning, routine tree inspections, young tree training, and replacements (it was noted that these figures would be significantly less as trees are donated through various programs.)

Next funding applications for the Urban and Community Forest Program is July 1st, and Asheville and Buncombe County are looking for an inter-governmental partnership for project funding through the grant process, stated Keith Aitken, to which Town Clerk Mercer stated we would seek approval if the program satisfies the Town Council's Strategic Goals for 2026-29.

Russ Kantner moved that the Tree Board recommends adopting the Davey Group Tree Maintenance Strategy which supports a 5-year tree canopy maintenance plan.

Carried unanimously. 6-0.

6. Adjournment

There being no other business and without objection, Chair Kantner adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.



Town Clerk
