



**White Salmon Tree Board Meeting Minutes**  
**A G E N D A**  
**April 14, 2025 – 4:00 PM**

**100 N Main Ave and Zoom Teleconference**  
**[Meeting ID: 882 2686 5398](#)**

**Call to Order**

Council member David Lindley called the meeting to order and initiated introductions.

Attendees included Tree Board member Karen, City staff member Ethan Adkins and Erika Castro Guzman, and a representative from Documentaries, Lorena Cadwell, attending to provide Spanish-language outreach.

**Discussion and Action Items**

**1. City Landscaping Plan 2025**

**Former Mark's Auto Flower Bed**

Landscape volunteer Adria Sparhawk is leading the redesign of the former Mark's Auto flower bed. The plan includes hardscaping elements such as bark, rock, and low-maintenance plants. Since there is no water access at the site, watering will rely on volunteer support, possibly through watering bags or hand watering. Concerns were raised about the long-term sustainability of the project without water infrastructure.

Additional discussion covered the potential reuse of the site for public art as part of the Art of Community. Maintenance responsibility for the flower bed is shared between the City and the adjacent property owner. The board emphasized the importance of community partnerships to support beautification efforts.

**Downtown Flower Bed Borders**

A project to reinstall 2x6 border planks in the downtown flower beds was approved. Landscape fabric and bark mulch will also be added where possible to reduce weed growth and improve the overall appearance of the flower beds.

**Peeble's Park Project**

Located at the top of NW Spring Street, People's Park is currently undergoing tree planting and will soon have a sprinkler system installed. Community feedback is being gathered to help decide additional park features, which may include a bench, picnic table, or swing set. The project is being supported by volunteer labor and donations due to a limited budget.

**Rhiengarden Park Tree Maintenance**

The board requested that green ties be removed from young oak trees near the tennis courts in Rhine Garden Park. There was also discussion about the buckling sidewalks near the Farmers Market area. Long-term solutions such as concrete grinding or path replacement are being considered.

### **General Tree Maintenance & Ordinance Update**

Staff reported that no major tree damage occurred over the winter. Residents are beginning to use the updated tree ordinance to address hazardous trees located near homes. Informational flyers and tree removal forms will be more widely distributed later in the season.

## **2. Roundtable Discussion**

### **Outreach & Events – Discussion About Increasing Visibility**

The board discussed ways to expand outreach and community engagement. Ideas included creating a “Heritage Tree Walk” or a seasonal “Blooming Tree Map” to showcase significant or scenic trees around town. Members expressed interest in collaborating with the Chamber of Commerce or the Downtown Business Alliance to support these efforts. The board may explore funding opportunities through tourism or lodging tax grants. It was also suggested that Julie from the Downtown Business Alliance be invited to a future meeting to discuss potential alignment between ongoing tree projects and downtown marketing initiatives.

### **Zoom Meeting Format**

The group reviewed the current practice of offering Zoom access to meetings. While public participation via Zoom has been limited, the consensus was to continue offering remote access upon request and as staffing capacity allows.

### **Four Oaks Subdivision/Tree Concern**

The board noted concerns about the future of a large Ponderosa Pine near N Main, associated with the Four Oak Subdivision. Tree removal is planned due to its proximity to PUD infrastructure and the city’s water booster station. However, the subdivision project itself is currently on pause, reportedly due to economic conditions.

### **Public Comment & Open Discussion**

Staff will follow up with Public Works regarding the City’s legal authority to prune trees on private property when they obstruct public signage, a concern raised near the downtown corridor. There was also interest expressed in supporting broader community clean-up efforts and increasing Tree Board visibility at local events.

### **Next Steps**

Tree Board members will coordinate with Julie on potential collaboration for mapping and outreach projects. The next Tree Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 12. In the meantime, members are encouraged to brainstorm goals for the upcoming year, including outreach, educational walks, and community engagement opportunities.

### **Adjournment**