



TREE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
6101 Johnson Creek Blvd. Milwaukie, OR 97206
2.19.2025
Hybrid / In- Person and Zoom Video Conference Meeting

Board Members Present:

Kathleen Hunter-Brenner
Camden Mckone
Olivia Padilla
Jon Brown

Board Members Absent:

Alexis Barton
Ley Garnett

Guest:

None

Staff Members Present:

Courtney Wilson, Urban Forester
Katie Gavares, Climate and Natural Resources Manager

MEETING NOTES

Tree board did not approve January meeting minnutes, as the secretary was not present.

Courtney Wilson provided the board updates on urban forestry staff projects. The updates included celebrating that Milwaukie recived the Tree City, USA and Growth Awards for 2024, public tree maintenance efforts at Historic City Hall and Ledding Library, and that staff are working with the downtown business community on improving downtown ROW tree maintenance efforts.

Katie Gavares provided an overview of the Oregon Department of Forestry grant recived in Janaury 2025. The goals of the grant are to help the city equitably reach 40% canopy coverage by 2040; implement community responsive urban forestry services; build relationships and trust with residents, improving UF's perception as the tree police; and, build internal capacity and expertise on urban forestry equity. The outcomes of the grant will result in a Urban Forestry Equity Implementation Plan and an updated Branch Out Milwaukie map. The project will consist of significant community engagement over the summer, June-September, and then publish the plan and map in May 2026. Tree board encouraged staff to consider metrics for incremental goals for engagement and tree canopy.

Tree Board reviewed the 2025 roadmap staff put together to highlight how they would advance their identified priorities. Kathleen Brennan-Hunter let the board know that Gina Drake officially stepped off the Tree Board for capacity issues and asked who is interested in serving as Tree Board's Vice-Chair. Tree Board will vote on a new vice-chair in the March meeting. The Tree Board noted they want to do something to thank all of Gina's contributions to Milwaukie's urban forest.

Finally, Tree Board brainstormed talking points for their update to city council on March 11. Brainstormed achievements included the hiring of a new Climate and Natural Resources Manager, new staff liaison, and continuous improvement and implementation of the policies Tree Board has worked on.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.