



TOWN OF BEAUX ARTS VILLAGE

PLANNING COMMISSION

MINUTES

March 19, 2026

Agnew Residence

Present: Commissioners Jeremy Laws, Steve Miller, Bruce Agnew, and Kim Moloney

Staff: Deputy Clerk Addie Tych and Clerk Treasurer Amy Myhre

Guests: Councilmember Paula Dix, residents Susan Bogert, Janice Connolly and Julia Morse

Commissioner Miller called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Miller moved to approve the February 19, 2026, minutes.

Commissioner Laws seconded. Vote: 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

COUNCIL UPDATE

Council passed the Public Camping Ordinance at the March meeting.

There has been no progress with the Comp Plan, since the town's contact at the Department of Commerce (DOC) has been out of the office for an extended period, returning on 3/20/26. The town has submitted the requested documents to the DOC and is waiting for the DOC to respond with a detailed outline of what they would like the town to address.

Tree Code – *for discussion*

The Planning Commission continued its targeted review of the Tree Code at the direction of the Town Council. The Council requested that the Commission focus on specific topics rather than pursue a full code rewrite. This meeting focused on definitions that are and should be in the tree code.

Definitions

Commissioners discussed the various definitions that are currently in the Tree Code, as well as definitions that should be taken into consideration for addition to the code. There was prior debate on whether to remove the definition of mature trees from the code, but after further review, mature tree size is how the code determines tree units, so it should be left in the code.

Suggestions for additions to the definitions in the code included pruning/limbing, specific tree species that should and should not be protected (these can be obtained from the Arborist), dead

or dying trees, exceptional trees (trees three feet or more in diameter, regardless of species, that have cultural significance and are part of the town eco system), groves, and invasive species.

There was also discussion that the Town may want to consider reducing the 12-inch diameter that is currently used in the Code to regulate trees down to 6 inches. This aligns more closely with other cities' codes.

The Commissioners also discussed adopting a priority ranking or points system that would rank trees in order of importance by species. This is done in the City of Issaquah's Tree Code and may help Beaux Arts preserve the most important trees by setting guidelines on which trees should be removed first if removal is requested.

Discussion was also had regarding an idea for a potential community event where the Town Arborist would educate and answer questions from residents. Ideally this would coincide with an already scheduled community event, such as a town clean up or community picnic. The challenge with this type of event is the cost, as the Town Arborist is a contractor with a high per hour rate. The Town Clerk will check with Council to see if there is a budget for this type of event.

Additional discussion of the tree code, including discussion of the 20% rule, possible incentives for builders to keep trees, a review of the definitions previously discussed, and a review of the draft list of questions for the arborist will take place at the next meeting. If the Department of Commerce responds to the Comp Plan review before the next meeting, the Commission will prioritize the Comp Plan discussion.

Adjourn: Commissioner Miller moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 pm. Commissioner Agnew seconded. Vote: 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for April 16th.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Myhre, Clerk/Treasurer
Town of Beaux Arts Village