

**TOQUERVILLE CITY**  
**TREE BOARD MEETING SUMMARY**

Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 6:00 PM  
Held at 212 N. Toquerville Blvd, Toquerville Utah

Attendance: Councilmen: Brad Langston, and Mark Fahrenkamp; Lance Gubler, Renee Garner, Kent Hustead, Tami Young, Lori Wrangle, Ella Wrangle, Bruce Jones, Christie Jones, and Tom Harmon.

6:00 pm:

1. Councilman Brad Langston opened the meeting and welcomed the newly appointed members of the board: Kent Hustead, Tami Young, Lori Wrangle, Bruce Jones and Christie Jones. Bruce and Christie share one seat and have one vote. Brad invited each member to express the reason they volunteered to serve on the board.

1. Tami shared her surprise to learn that trees on her property were not just her concern, but that their care affected others. She expressed her love for the trees of Toquerville and her desire to preserve the beauty of our City and the health of the trees.

2. Lori stated that the trees are an excellent privacy and sound barrier for the Toquerville Blvd traffic and that she wanted to have a voice in decisions made regarding the trees.

3. Kent felt that Tami and Lori's comments summed up his thoughts well

4. Bruce mentioned his reticence in joining but believed he could be of help in preserving what is beautiful about the boulevard.

Brad thanked them each and stated that he felt encouraged by their interest, believing that diversity of thought would help us make more informed recommendations to Council.

He talked about how he will run the meetings; that he will start on time, keep us on topic and try to keep the meetings brief. He explained that the Board is responsible for all the trees in the City.

Brad mentioned that Sarah Horton was going to send him a summary of her findings on the possibility of underground power lines on the Boulevard but he didn't see that come to him before the meeting.

2. Brad brought up the pecan tree in front of Wes Cannon which is leaning on the power line. Bruce mentioned that the power company was seeking a signature to remove it. Brad explained that they were trying to get Wes Cannon's signature. He has given verbal approval but they need it in writing. Technically the City (Mayor) could sign the document, but only under Council's direction.

3. Regarding the trees on Toquerville Boulevard Brad said that first and foremost the trees belong to the residents. Rocky Mountain Power owns an easement under the trees in the strip between the sidewalk and the street. UDOT has an easement and the right to expand.

Renee mentioned that the City has an ordinance which allows it to trim, remove or replace foliage in this strip as in other areas in the name of public safety. Bruce added that the City would give notice to the property owner and ask them to solve any problem, giving them a fair amount of time to solve the problem.

Brad asked Bruce to study the Tree Ordinance, as a para-legal and give his opinions and thoughts that he thinks might be helpful.

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Lance mentioned a conversation with a Parawan citizen who said that the sidewalks in Parawan belong to the residents, not the City. This makes the citizens liable if the sidewalks are in poor shape. Tami responded that the sidewalk in front of Meyers is buckling because it wasn't done right the last time. Tami asked if the best thing to do would be to cut the roots and replace the sidewalks. She reminded us that one of the arborist thought that this could compromise some of the trees but that it would be the best thing to do. Renee and Tami also mentioned adding more trees where they are now missing. The Board discussed the importance of informing all the residents of the plan and of their responsibility to maintain the trees on their property.

3. Brad explained that we would like to apply for a grant from Tree City, the filing of which is by September 10th. He said our first priority would be to create a plan for the boulevard and have it ready by April. This would give Brad time to prepare a presentation to Council for the budget of 2015/16 fiscal year that would be decided on in June. The time table would be;

- to have a plan by April,
- a budget delineated by June,
- the Grant in by September and if approved we would get the grant in October, and
- we could start work in January next year.

Brad assigned everyone to;

- make a list of all the property owners on the west side of the Boulevard that they personally can talk to and get their lists to Renee (renee@toquerville.org). Then Brad, Lance, Mark, Chris, and Renee will contact those not on anyone's list.
- The object is to discuss with each person their concerns; sidewalk repair, safety, tree replacement, and beautification, etc.
- Key would be to inform them that the strip is their property and their ultimate responsibility. The City is just trying to help where help is needed.

Everyone's report will be due at the next meeting which will be February 17, 2015 at 6:00 pm.

Renee was assigned to send everyone the arborist's reports that are written up in the November 18, 2014 meeting summary, and a list of the trees that could be used.

Brad said once we get the plan for the west side, we can work on the east side. He mentioned that we didn't get a grant this year because we didn't have a master plan.

Brad asked if we should try to have a meeting with the home owners on the west side as we tried to do before. Tami felt that one-on-one conversations are more useful. Mark and Lance expressed agreement with Tami.

Discussion included that Tree City expenditures are under Parks and that we will be receiving a small amount of RAP tax revenue.

Brad spoke of his enthusiasm for this Board and for the future of the City forest. He thanked everyone for their contribution and interest and dismissed the meeting.

Summary written by Renee Garner, Board Member