

**SHADE TREE AND BEAUTIFICATION BOARD
OF CITY OF ST. GEORGE
REGULAR MEETING
January 15, 2026, 12:00 P.M.
MILLCREEK PARKS OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM**

Present:

**Parks Deputy Director/Urban Forester Ben Neumann
Board Member Bonnie Pendleton
Board Member John Sorenson
Board Member Conn Wood
Board Member/Councilmember Steve Kemp
Secretary Rachel Hurd
Civil Attorney Daniel Baldwin
Brenda Hatch Planner
Arborist Clifton Christensen
Mark Hodges Applicant**

Excused:

**Carol Winner Planner
Parks Manager Todd Steed
Board Member Gil Almquist**

CALL TO ORDER:

Deputy Director/Urban Forester Ben Neuman called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance. Each person introduced themselves.

Link to call to order and introductions: [00:00:09](#)

Discussion and consideration of tree(s) removal on location at 600 North 2790 East, St. George, Utah, 84790 - Mark Hodges (Arbor Tech), Springtree Gardens

Link to discussion between Applicant Mark Hodges, the Shade Tree Board, Planner Brenda Hatch, Arborist Clifton Christensen, Attorney Daniel Baldwin and Urban Forester Ben Neumann: [00:01:59](#)

Link to motion: [00:32:42](#)

MOTION:

A motion was made by Board Member Bonnie Pendleton to table the discussion of the removal of tree(s) on location at 600 North 2790 East, St. George, Utah, 84790 until Mark Hodges can discuss with the Springtree Gardens HOA all of the comments and suggestions made including

planting 24 inch boxes in areas they can go in, six other trees be planted, complete more measuring to be sure that six trees is enough, and potentially take out driveways and come back to the Shade Tree board with a plan. Steve Kemp added onto the motion that in Mark Hodge's discussion with the Springtree Gardens HOA the City of St. George would take out the north tree in an attempt to try and lower the Springtree Garden HOA's cost. A suggestion was also made from the board to look into getting a variance from the City of St. George planning division.

SECOND:

The motion was seconded by Board Member Steve Kemp

The motion was opened for discussion by Ben Neumann

VOTE:

Ben Neumann called for a vote, as follows:

Board member Kemp - aye

Board member Pendleton - aye

Board member Wood - aye

Board member Sorenson - aye

The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ARBOR DAY 2026

Link to agenda item two which is the discussion and consideration of Arbor Day 2026 including discussion between the Shade Tree Board, Arborist Clifton Christensen, and Urban Forester Ben Neumann: [00:41:12](#)

OPMA TRAINING

Link to agenda item three presented by Civil Attorney Daniel Baldwin including discussion between the Shade Tree Board, Urban Forester Ben Neumann and Civil Attorney Daniel Baldwin: [00:53:00](#)

OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS AND UPDATES FROM THE SHADE TREE BOARD MEMBERS

Link to agenda item four presented by Urban Forester Ben Neumann including discussion between the Board Members, Urban Forester Ben Neumann, and Brenda Hatch: [01:07:09](#)

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 21, 2025

Link to agenda item five presented by Urban Forester Ben Neumann: [01:12:58](#)

MOTION:

A motion was made by Board Member Bonnie Pendleton

SECOND:

The motion was seconded by Board Member Steve Kemp

VOTE:

Ben Neumann called for a vote, as follows:

Board member Kemp - aye

Board member Pendleton - aye

Board member Wood - aye

Board member Sorenson - aye

The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

ADJOURN:

Link to motion: [01:15:44](#)

Motion:

A motion was made by Board Member Bonnie Pendleton to adjourn

Second:

The motion was seconded by Board Member Steve Kemp

Vote:

Ben Neumann called for a vote, as follows:

Bonnie Pendleton - aye

Steve Kemp - aye

Conn Wood - aye

John Sorenson - aye

The vote was unanimous, and the motion carried.

/s/Rachel Hurd

Rachel Hurd, Secretary