

Gretna Arbor Society Tree Board
Tuesday, February 10, 2026 Meeting Minutes

This meeting was conducted in compliance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Gretna Main Public Library Conference Room. Roll Call was taken; present were Jerry Imig, Amy Nakai, Dave Kovar, John Wolken, Marshall Jaros, Lauren Liebenritt, City Council Representative and Billy (last name spelling), Gretna Parks Manager. Minutes of the January 13, 2026, meeting were approved as amended, motions by Jerry and Dave. Public Comments on any Agenda Items: None, closed public comments.

Board Position Nominations for 2026 are: Dan Hansen, Treasurer, Amy Nakai, Chair, and John Wolken, Secretary. Motions were made to accept the nominations, voting for each was unanimous in favor.

Financial Update budget balance is \$20,745, pending expenses for travel to January conference in Lincoln.

We reviewed the annual Winter Conference; members were impressed by the quality of the speakers.

Lauren and Amy provided information regarding the Memorial policy for the City Parks. A Google form, similar to the one used by Valley Nebraska was shared. Tree planting and species selection will be coordinated by the City departments responsible. The Tree Board will assist as needed.

The Annual Gretna Tree Talk will be held on Saturday, March 7, 2026, at Harvest Hills Elementary School. Amy has secured three speakers to present at the event. Vendors will include Wild Birds Unlimited. Amy has secured donations from local businesses; Fareway will provide snacks, and Scooters will provide the coffee. We will accept donations to the Gretna Food Bank in place of an admission charge. Members are asked to plan arrival at 7:00 a.m. to set up.

John has completed the grant submittal for the NRD for the 2026 tree funding program. The request is for trees to be planted along the east side of Gretna Crossing Park (GXP). Pending approval, we plan to plant trees on April 11 at 9:00 a.m. For the USA's 250th anniversary, we plan to plant a tree at the new City Hall facility after construction has been completed. Once the grant has been approved, we will work with the Nursery to coordinate shipping to reduce the cost of delivery. Community involvement will be discussed at our next meeting.

The annual Poster Contest award ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, April 23, at 7:00 p.m. Missy and Amy have delivered paper to the schools. Amy secured donations from Walmart for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes (gift cards), and Marshall will donate the Grand Prize Award. Jim Keepers has also offered to donate funds. We will judge the posters before our monthly meeting on April 14 at 6:30 p.m.

The Arbor Day Program will be held on April 24th at Falling Water Elementary School, time 1:30 p.m. We will ask the Mayor to read the proclamation.

Dan Hansen will attend the Winter Tree I.D. training course in Lincoln. A motion was made by Amy and Jerry to pay the cost, (\$85) motion passed.

Looking ahead, the Gretna Days Parade will be on July 26th.

Motion to adjourn by Jerry and Dan. Meeting Adjourned at 7:52 p.m. Next meeting March 10, 2026

Respectfully, John Wolken, Secretary. March 5, 2026