

**City of Concord**  
**Conservation Commission**  
**Tree Sub-Committee**

Minutes of September 29, 2022 Meeting  
Council Chambers, City Hall Annex, 37 Green Street

In attendance:

Subcommittee Members: Ted Diers, Craig Tufts, Peter Breu, John Regan

Staff: Beth Fenstermacher (Planning), Stefanie Breton (Public Information Officer); Chip Chesley (General Services)

Others: Stacey Brown (City Council); Liz McKinley (Community Forester NH Division of Forest and Lands); Jessie Prucnal (US Forest Service); Danielle Gift (US Forest Service Northeast Region); Lucy Gates (guest); Tom Daigle (guest)

1. Call to Order.

Ted called the meeting to order shortly after 8:00.

2. Minutes of August 25, 2022.

The minutes of August 25 were unanimously approved with no changes.

3. Introductions

Liz was accompanied by two guests from the US Forest Service, Jessie Prucnal and Danielle Gift.

Lucy Gates also introduced herself. They are passionate about trees, and learned about the committee after meeting Councilor Brown at the farmers market.

Tom Daigle introduced himself. He grew up in Concord, but moved away and came back. He is interested to learn and see how we can have more trees here in Concord.

The committee welcomed all of the guests.

4. Farmer's Market update

Ted reported that he went and he saw that the committee had a very nice display. John, Stacey, Zib, and Peter all contributed to the display and to having a presence at the farmers market. They reported that some people they spoke with were interested in the Sustainable Tree Program. They also met a few influential people in the community.

There was a brief discussion about in the future how the tree committee may be able to accept donations.

5. Tree Champion Award

Ted asked if anyone would like to partner with him to help get the project going. John, Stacey and Lucy offered to assist.

## 6. Bob Pollock's Concord Tree History update

Stacey passed out a flier showing a tour that they planned to hold on an upcoming Saturday. The guided walking tour would feature several prominent or notable trees in the vicinity of the State House. Stacey also noted connections she has made with Mental Health Awareness week. There are synergies and partnerships between the mental health community and trees that Stacy believes can be used. The committee thought it was excellent and some said they would join in on the tour.

There was a brief discussion about the app Outer Spatial. After some discussion, it was decided that a storymap would be more suitable and sustainable platform. Craig offered assistance from the CNHRPC. He would need the content that we would like to post, and him or his co-workers could use it to craft a storymap. Further discussion ensued on various outreach ideas.

## 7. Penacook Tree Planting

Beth talked to staff from Engineering and noted that there will be two meetings for the paving program in Penacook where tree efforts could be shared. One is for Borough Rd and Lilac St. Later in October there is another meeting planned for the rest of Penacook.

Tom Daigle mentioned concern over the utilities cutting down trees, and residents not being aware that they have the option to say no. It was discussed that it may be worth having a discussion with Utility Companies regarding tree trimming and tree removal.

## 8. Grant Opportunities

John noted that he is still working on learning about grant opportunities that the committee may be able to use. He mentioned contacting utilities about tree giveaways, grants or donations. He mentioned a DES planning grant that might be suitable, and he is working to schedule a meeting with them this fall. Liz mentioned a grant she is working on, with funds under \$2500 specifically for schools.

Also mentioned were grants in the infrastructure bill (BIL) next year for up to \$24,000 for underserved communities. Also mentioned by the Forest Service representatives were the funds for urban forestry under the Inflation Reduction Act, and the SUFR grant. It was noted that we should be ready with plans and locations for trees to take advantage of these programs as they come up. Some of this might be a good fit to match or pay for trees identified along with the paving in Penacook.

It was noted that capacity may become an issue as Ryan and his crew are nearly maxed out in how many trees they can plant. It was noted that it would be great to use grant money to help expand capacity in some way.

## 9. Other Business

It was noted that the Sustainable Tree Planting signs that were placed around the community at tree planting sites need to be collected. Some of them have already been collected.

## 10. Next Meeting: Friday October 28, 8AM

Meeting adjourned around 9:15 am

Respectfully Submitted,  
Craig Tufts, Secretary

To-Do list:

Stacy will share CNHRPC content for a storymap

Ted, John, Stacey, and Lucy will work on the Tree Champion Award

Beth will follow plans for paving meetings in Penacook