

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

Minutes of February 24, 2023 Meeting
Council Chambers, City Hall Annex, 37 Green Street

In attendance: Subcommittee Members: Ted Diers, Zib Corell, Tom Daigle, Stacey Brown, Rick Chormann (Conservation Commission Liaison)

Staff: Beth Fenstermacher (Planning), Stefanie Breton (PIO), Jim Major (General Services)

Ted called the meeting to order at 8:08 a.m.

1. Minutes from the January 19, 2023 meeting were approved. Committee noted excellent minutes by Craig.

2. **Annual report**

Ted wrote up a draft report, Beth will send it out to the group for review and comment. Ted summarized the outline of the report: tree plantings, Sustainable Tree Program, interactions with schools, outreach and the tree champion award

Jim will follow up with Ryan to get data from 2022 plantings.

Outreach activities included tree tours, Concord Farmers' Market table, backyard trees, video footage. The report notes loss of canopy numbers, and includes recognizing work with Liz McKinley, and partnership with Concord Schools.

Goal is to have on the March Council agenda for an April public hearing.

Beth will send around a draft along with a draft of the Tree Champion

3. **Spring Outreach Event – May 16, 6 p.m., City Wide Community Center**

Beth is meeting with Liz McKinley to discuss details and checking on the availability of trees – might need to go with container versus bare root.

4. **Penacook Trees Outreach**

Letters went out, Committee members will follow-up. Outreach process and materials were discussed. Encourage residents to sign up through SeeClickFix, Ryan will follow up to finalize species and tree location once they sign up.

5. **Blossom Hill Tree Tour Map**

Map with tree coordinates has been plotted by Matt Baronas at CNHRPC. Stacey has been in touch with Jill Huckins, who requested she follow up with Laura Bryant. It was noted that there is a OLLI tour of Blossom Hill scheduled for June 15, 10-11:30 a.m.

6. **Grant Opportunities**

No updates at this time. Beth will check in with Liz McKinley.

7. **School Connections**

Tom suggested follow-up with School Board after the Council presentation, closer to the end of the year. What is the ask and/or goals to discuss with the board? Discuss in April.

Tom is planning to volunteer at the Arbor Day & Earth Day event at Abbot Downing School and asked for talking points.

Concord High School Tree Inventory

John reached out to the school and is waiting to hear back. There is some money from the State, which requires a match. Discuss with the School Board as well.

8. **Backyard Tree Planting**

Ted spoke with the Merrimack County Conservation District contact, she might be able to get good pricing on bare root trees (hardwoods maybe). Discussed holding a backyard tree event, or wrapping that into the May 16th event. Perhaps doing a tree giveaway.

Next meeting: Friday, March 31, 8 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 a.m.