

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

Minutes of June 26, 2024 Meeting  
Council Chambers, City Hall Annex, 37 Green Street

In Attendance:

Subcommittee Members: John Regan, Zib Corell, Craig Tufts, Peter Breu, Craig Tufts, Stacey Brown, Ted Diers, Liz McKinley, Steve Winnett

Absent: Rick Chormann

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

1. Call to Order.

Ted called the meeting to order shortly after 8:00am. Steve Winnett was introduced as the newest member.

2. Minutes of May 24.

The minutes of May 24 were unanimously approved with several minor corrections and clarifications.

3. New Business

- a. Initiative to Plant Trees on Special Housing/Coops – Jim made note that it would not be appropriate for his staff to assist with tree planting efforts on private property outside of the city right of way. Zib and the committee took note, and discussion revolved around the approach to take.

It was noted that the Sustainable Street Tree program could be eligible, but only within the street right of way. Also, that program is above capacity, so bringing in trees through an alternative program would help.

Zib reported that she spoke with Julie Palmeri at Concord Housing + Redevelopment about planting trees on their properties. Julie is doing some internal follow up and will get back to Stacey if this is feasible.

The model discussed is to have a partnership with housing entities, and identify sources of funding and how to get the trees in the ground. The Committee discussed the importance of getting an agreement from the properties that someone will care for them.

John noted that if we can get a pilot program through an organization like CATCH it could present opportunities to work with other entities. Ted noted he had not yet reached out to NH Community Loan Fund about trees at Cooperative housing.

- b. The group decided to drop the idea of a raffle.

4. Old Business

- a. Tree Champion- Tom was going to follow up with the Chamber, but was not present at the meeting. We will discuss at the next meeting. John noted he nominated Jim Milliken to the Concord Monitor as a Hometown Hero.
- b. Farmer's Market- The committee had a presence at some but not all of the farmers markets this month. They had the tree in the air conditioner box as a display, which got a little attention and a few chuckles. The group discussed options to enhance outreach opportunities. Everyone will consider SWAG to give away and draw people in. Stacy mentioned National Night Out and the Multicultural Fest were additional options to get the word out beyond farmer's markets. The group noted that last year our fall participation in farmers markets were less fruitful than spring and that we had decided to not focus on fall. The group thought it would be good to attend two in the fall.
- c. Tree Tour- Stacey has not yet sent materials to Stefanie to compile into a tree tour brochure. After discussion, the group felt it should fit on one letter sized page, with some information on the back. Stefanie thought 12-15 trees (points on the map) would be plenty. Stacey will work through the content she has and share with Stefanie.
- d. Property Owner Outreach- Work is underway at Lawrence St with paving scheduled soon. Jim said he would follow up with the three addresses that showed an interest in trees. He'll have more info at the next meeting.

Ted noted that we already looked at Pembroke Road and wondered if we should get a head start on that for when it is paved. Jim noted it is scheduled for 2026 paving, and depending on timing trees may not go in until 2027. Jim noted some streets planned for paving next year. The group agreed to have the 2025 paving schedule on next meeting's agenda.

## 5. Other Business

- a. Strategic Report for End of Year- Beth felt this report should be produced in January. The purpose would be to show Council the committee's work and set the stage for tree funding. Beth reported the Tree Trust Fund has been getting funds from CUP developments in lieu of tree planting (when the site does not have suitable locations for the required number of trees). Money in the trust fund needs to get moved to the project fund before being spent. Stacey stated that Council approved \$10,000 for General Services budget for trees this year. Last year \$10k was requested Council approved \$5k.
- b. Russell Martin Park and Iron Works Road- Stacey and Craig reported that TPAC discussed ways to calm traffic on Iron Works Rd near Russell Martin Park. Street tree planting was discussed as a possible method to help slow traffic speeds. Stacey and Craig posed the possibility of planting trees in the park along side of the road. Beth will talk to Karen Hill from Engineering and David Gill from Parks & Rec about it.
- c. Sustainable Tree Program Report – Jim reported 25 trees were planted through the Sustainable Tree program, 24 of those took advantage of the grant. They anticipate to plant another 5-10 trees this year. There are 19 people still on the waiting list. The group thanked Jim for the good work getting trees planted. Stefanie noted they have not been pushing the program because of the wait list. The group reiterated the committee should help find a way to increase tree planting capacity.

6. Next Meeting: Friday August 22 8:00AM

7. Meeting adjourned at 9:14 am

Respectfully Submitted,  
Craig Tufts

To-Do List

Zib will reach out to CATCH and work on developing a partnership to get trees planted

Tom will follow up with Chamber on the Champion award (if he has not already)

Everyone with think of possible SWAG for farmer's markets

Stacey will share self-guided tree tour info with Stefanie

Beth will talk to Karen Hill and Dave Gill about tree planting at Russell Martin Park