



**CITY OF CONCORD**

*New Hampshire's Main Street™*

**41 Green Street, Concord NH 03301**

**(603) 225-8570**

**Conservation Commission Tree Sub-Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

**August 22, 2025 @ 8:00 AM**

**Council Chambers, City Hall Annex,**

**37 Green Street (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor) - Concord, NH 03301**

In Attendance:

Subcommittee Members: Ted Diers (Chair), John Regan, Zib Corell, Councilor Stacey Brown, Craig Tufts, Peter Breu (arrived 8:19), Tom Daigle, Liz McKinley, Steve Winnett

Absent:

Staff:

Beth Fenstermacher, Director of Special Projects and Strategic Initiatives of Community Development

Jeff Hoadley, Acting Director of General Services

Stephanie McKim, Administrative Coordinator

Chair Diers called the meeting to order at 8:02 A.M. Members of the committee welcomed Acting Director of General Services, Jeff Hoadley.

**Adoption of June 20, 2025 Minutes**

Mr. Regan moved the approval of the June 20, 2025 minutes. Mr. Tufts seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**1. Farmers Market**

Chair Diers inquired if any members of the committee would like to volunteer for the Farmer's Market in the fall. Chair Diers reported it would be an opportunity to discuss the tree tags and suggested selecting two dates. Councilor Brown and Mr. Winnett volunteered for September 20 and Mr. Regan and Chair Diers volunteered for September 27. Ms. Corell reviewed what the tree tag displayed for information and reported she had the tree tag enlarged and placed on a post to display the content. Ms. Corell reported at the Spring Farmer's market, she had tree group giveaways and that helped attract people to the tree tag display. She suggested having a braid of bittersweet vine to use as an educational tool this fall in addition to the tree tag display.

Councilor Brown inquired about the location of the current tree tags. Chair Diers reported the tree tags are located on both sides of Main Street between the State Capital Building and Pleasant Street.

1 **2. Initiative to plant trees on special housing, Co-op housing, shelter properties**

2 Ms. Corell reported the goal was to work through the Community Loan Fund to find properties that are Co-  
3 ops in the Concord area. She contacted two Co-ops and one was not interested from the beginning. The  
4 second Co-op was initially interested but needed to look deeper into infrastructure to support the trees.  
5 They subsequently decided to not move forward this year.

6 **3. Invasive Vines**

7 Mr. Winnett reported he started a draft version of a handout to educate on invasive vines. The handout  
8 would be used to raise attention and to educate. Mr. Winnett reported seeing invasive vines near the  
9 highways and on gateway trees and suggested this would be an opportunity to demonstrate how to get rid of  
10 it. He inquired if General Services is working to eradicate bittersweet vines around the City. Mr. Hoadley  
11 reported to his knowledge the City is not actively working on a plan to eradicate bittersweet but he will look  
12 into how the tree crew is handling invasive vines.

13 Ms. Corell inquired about the tree clearing off Fort Eddy Road. Mr. Hoadley reported the is being conducted  
14 by the State. Chair Diers reported it is his understanding the State is cutting it back to deter homeless  
15 encampments.

16 Chairs Diers reported he has a contact at D.O.T that he could reach out to learn more about the clearings  
17 around the City that is being executed by the State.

18 Mr. Winnett inquired if a conversation should be had with the school system as well. He has noticed  
19 bittersweet vines on school property. Mr. Regan expressed concern that the City has a challenging workload  
20 planting and caring for the trees with the resources it has and expressed concern adding in invasive vines to  
21 that workload. He suggested providing an educational opportunity and getting volunteers to assist in  
22 removing invasive vines. Ms. Fenstermacher reported the trails group worked with a high school club called  
23 R.O.P.E.S. and they did an invasive vines removal day. Mr. Daigle suggested identifying the areas in the City  
24 that have bittersweet vines and clarifying what is City property, school property and privately owned. Chair  
25 Diers reported in the past when planting a tree, they made a "how to" video and suggested it would be a  
26 good opportunity to put together a video on the removal of bittersweet vines and use it for a resource. Chair  
27 Diers reported this would be a project to work on over the winter to allow Mr. Hoadley to look into what the  
28 City is doing, for him to speak with D.O.T., to identify areas around the City that need removal and to develop  
29 a resources site.

30 Discussion ensued about the proper handling of invasive vines.

31 **4. Tree Champion Award**

32 Chair Diers presented the Tree Champion award to the committee for viewing. Mr. Daigle reported the  
33 recipient of the Tree Champion award has been selected and he is seeking a location to host the award  
34 ceremony, date and time. Ms. Fenstermacher reported Havenwood Heritage Heights had expressed interest  
35 in hosting the award ceremony. Ms. Fenstermacher and Mr. Daigle will follow up with Havenwood and the  
36 chamber of commerce regarding the Tree Champion award event.

37 Discussion ensued around promoting the event through the Chamber, City social media, and Concord TV,  
38 and notifying nominees.

39 **5. Greenspace Coalition**

40 Mr. Regan reported the Greenspace Coalition website Urban Canopy section doesn't accurately reflect work  
41 the City is doing. Mr. Regan reported he and Ms. Fenstermacher have attempted to set up meeting to share  
42 information on what the City has been working on and have been unable to coordinate a date. Mr. Regan  
43 reported they did share the annual report submitted to Council with Greenspace Coalition. He felt that  
44 provided an accurate overview of what the City is working on and expressed hope Greenspace Coalition  
45 would review the report and update their website. Mr. Regan reported Greenspace Coalition could be a  
46 supportive group for this tree subcommittee when seeking assistance with future community activities.

47 A brief discussion ensued around Greenspace Coalition purpose, website updates, and how they are  
48 preparing for Concord's Master Plan.

1 **6. Tree Corps**

2 Mr. Regan reported the idea for Tree Corps generated around gather volunteers for community projects like  
3 tree plantings, or vine eradication. Chair Diers reported it would be best to connect with a contact that  
4 manages volunteers already and it would be something to discuss in the future when there is a project in  
5 mind.

6 **New Business**

7 Mr. Regan reported he had a conversation with Kevin Porter of the Conservation Commission, and they  
8 discussed the Tree Subcommittee attending a meeting to update the Conservation Commission. Mr. Diers  
9 reported it was his understanding the Conservation Commission had been receiving updates. Ms.  
10 Fenstermacher reported the minutes from this committee are linked to their agenda. Chair Diers will contact  
11 the Conservation Commission Chair to discuss getting on the agenda.

12 Mr. Hoadley reported the City had planted 38 trees through the sustainable tree program between May and  
13 August. 32 Concord residents received 22 shade trees and 16 ornamental trees. He reported the cost of the  
14 trees range from \$350 to \$540.

15 Mr. Regan reported he had a discussion with the owner of Feathered Friends Brewery, Tucker Jadcak. Mr.  
16 Jadcak received the Small Business Award from the Local Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Regan discussed the  
17 Tree Champion award with Mr. Jadcak and he expressed interest in doing a donation fundraiser. Mr. Regan  
18 reported Mr. Jadcak may be a member of the local Chamber they could approach for the Tree Champion  
19 award selection committee next year. Chair Diers will discuss the fundraising event with Mr. Jadcak.

20 Mr. Regan reported Unitil typically issues grants in September. He will reach out to Unitil to inquire  
21 upcoming grant opportunities.

22 Councilor Brown inquired about tree cuttings at the Golf Course and Beaver Meadow Golf Course. She  
23 reported the trees could be of board value. Ms. Fenstermacher reported the City harvests timber from City  
24 Forests, the City sells the timber value of the tree and that is how the tree is taken down. She is not sure if  
25 that same approach is taken for individual trees that the City removes that are considered to be hazard trees.  
26 She reported trees are typically removed when the tree poses a hazard to human health and safety.

27 Ms. Corell inquired about replacement of the dead tree at the School District property on School Street. Mr.  
28 Regan reported he had sent Mr. Cashman a note that the contracted landscapers damaged the City-provided  
29 tree and the landscaper should be responsible for the replacement. Chair Diers reported the subcommittee  
30 should reach back out to Mr. Cashman.

31 Next Meeting: Friday September 26, 2025 8:00AM

32 Mr. Corell moved to motioned to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously

33 Meeting adjourned at 9:10 A.M.

34

35 Respectfully Submitted,

36 Stephanie Mckim, Administrative Coordinator