



CITY OF CONCORD
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Conservation Commission Tree Sub-Committee
Meeting Minutes
December 19, 2025 @ 8:00 AM
Council Chambers, City Hall Annex,
37 Green Street (2nd Floor) - Concord, NH 03301

In Attendance:

Subcommittee Members: Ted Diers (Chair), John Regan, Councilor Stacey Brown, Craig Tufts, Tom Daigle, Steve Winnett, Rick Chormann, Elizabeth Corell, Liz McKinley

Absent:

Peter Breu

Staff:

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

Public:

Jo Russavage, UNH Extension Urban Forestry and Ecology Extension Field Specialist, Fedelma McKenna

Chair Diers called the meeting to order at 8:07 A.M.

1. Adoption of November 21, 2025 Minutes

Ms. Corell moved the approval of the November 21, 2025 minutes as written. Mr. Daigle seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

2. Invasive Vines – Education/Outreach

Mr. Winnett reported that he and Chair Diers will be meeting with Tim Boodey, Assistant Director of Operations at NHDOT, regarding the State's right-of-way treatment of invasive plant species.

Mr. Winnett prepared an outline of a proposed "Invasive Vine Project Plan" and handed out for review and discussion. He reported that the immediate next steps are to identifying partner organizations and develop messaging. He suggested potential partners such as Concord Young Professionals Network and local churches. Mr. Daigle questioned what other communities are doing, and offered to help with outreach and research.

Chair Diers suggested that the subcommittee should identify projects first to help people understand what the program looks like. There was discussion about whether NHDOT was the right first project to focus on. While it is highly visible, members agreed it is easier to start with a smaller project due to logistics and liability within the NHDOT right of way.

There was discussion about creating a "site steward" model, and assign a volunteer steward to follow up after the initial clean up. Ms. Corell suggested that it is the subcommittee's job to inform, not do the work.

Mr. Regan suggested Project SEE and Havenwood Heritage Heights as the ideal first projects since there is already momentum and volunteers.

1 Ms. Russavage suggested the idea of a 1-page calendar/info sheet that could be mailed out in tax bills. Ms.
2 Fenstermacher suggested that is very expensive and not feasible. There was discussion of other free avenues for sharing
3 the calendar/info sheet. Ms. Russavage also suggested she could help host an online information session.

4 **6. Volunteers/Nature Groupie Follow up**

5 Councilor Brown reported two upcoming events that were posted on the Nature Groupie site seeking volunteers to help
6 with invasive vine removal. The events are in Topsfield, MA, scheduled for January 4th and 17th. She provided an email
7 to find out more: invasiveplanttaskforce@gmail.com.

8 **7. Fundraising/Grant opportunities**

9 Chair Diers reported he met with the owner of Feathered Friends (FF) to discuss the idea of a fundraising opportunity.
10 Two options were presented: tag on to the weekly Wednesday night trivia at the end of January, and/or work with FF to
11 develop a specific beer for the purpose that would launch in the spring. The general consensus was to move forward
12 with the January trivia event, adding in the "dad joke" competition. Ms. Russavage reported that the NH Seacoast
13 Permaculture group is hosting a trivia night at the end of the month, and suggested this could be used as an example for
14 trivia. Chair Diers will follow up with the brewery and get back to the subcommittee with additional information. Ms.
15 Fenstermacher will follow up with guidance language on promoting fundraising.

16 **8. Annual Report to City Council**

17 Chair Diers will prepare a draft for review at the January meeting.

18 **9. Other Business**

19 Next Meeting: Friday, January 23, 2026 at 8 a.m.

20

21 **10. New Business**

22 Mr. Regan reported that he reached out to Havenwood Heritage Heights to follow up on future collaborations; he is
23 awaiting a reply.

24 Chair Diers invited public guest Fedelma McKenna to speak. She would like to assist with a tree tour for the City.

25 A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Daigle. The motion was seconded by Mr. Regan. The motion passed by unanimous voice
26 vote.

27 Meeting adjourned at 8:59 A.M.

28

29 Respectfully Submitted,

30 Beth Fenstermacher, Director of Special Projects and Strategic Initiatives