

HARTFORD TREE BOARD MINUTES

Date| September 19, 2023 time 5 pm | Meeting called to order by Jeff Arnold _____

Commission Members In Attendance

Jeff Arnold, Chair, Gaal Shepherd Crowl, Alan Haehnel, David Barrell, Clare Forseth

Commission Members Absent

Leif Smedman

Others in Attendance

Scott Hausler

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Jeff Arnold. Seconded by: Alan Haehnel _____

In Favor All _____ Opposed None _____

The motion was Approved or Disapproved? Approved _____

Citizen Comments

None

Commission Member Comments

None

Directors Report

None

Old Business

1) Discuss future status of Tree Warden. Jim Henderson submitted his letter of resignation from the Hartford Tree Warden position. Jeff asked Jon Bouton if he was interested in the Tree Warden position, but he declined. Jeff will send his letter of interest to be appointed Hartford Tree Warden to Lana Livingston at the Town Managers Office. Gaal voiced interest in being appointed Assistant Tree Warden.

2) Plan of action for applying plastic over the knotweed with the help of the Department of Recreation staff and consider where to use any leftover plastic. Ensure that potential areas for the planting of some of the remaining 34 indigenous shrubs are marked with spray paint on the plastic. Six arrowwoods were planted in the riparian buffer August 31 by Jeff, Alan and Leif and 6 potted hardwoods that were donated to the Tree Board by Gene Kadish were planted in the nursery in their place. Leftover plastic can be used at Watson.

Jeff has been in contact with Scott and his crew to meet at Town Hall Wednesday, September 20th at 7 AM to lay the plastic over the knotweed, secure the plastic and lay dirt on the edges and seams to secure the plastic and keep the light out. Members of the Tree Board will also assist.

3) Gaal would like to discuss Jim Henderson's idea of establishing an overseer of green spaces to maintain and beautify them.

Scott reported that he and Public Works director, Bryan Gazda, will be discussing such a position at the Select Board Meeting. Everyone was on board about the need for downtown beautification to be a priority.

4) Set a date where we will invite the community and HCC to plant the remaining indigenous shrubs by the end of September as well as a date for a tree identification walk by the second or third weekend in October.

Jeff and Alan will load the shrubs Friday, September 29th, onto a truck and the community planting will be Saturday, September 30th at 1 pm.

A date for the fall tree ID walk still needs to be finalized.

5) Go over the Valley News article about wasp species being released in New Hampshire under the supervision of Federal Department of Agriculture to control EAB and their effectiveness to date.

New Hampshire Forest and Lands Department received three types of wasps that were imported from Russia and China to control EAB. In a 2022 study performed by Juli Gould, a researcher with the USDA, it was found that 54% to 81% of young ash trees or saplings had no living emerald ash borers in them in the areas she surveyed in New York following the introduction of the wasps ten years earlier.

6) Katsura update on its early loss of leaves and NN's response to Jim Lamontagne's concern about its health. Northern Nurseries seems to think that the tree will revive in the spring.

7) What tree species should we purchase and plant in Lyman Point Park?

A tree is needed to replace an evergreen that was taken out. The Board will discuss candidates at October meeting.

8) Tree of the Month report: Clare is prioritizing the new trees that have been planted so people know what they are.

September tree of the month are the Japanese Tree Lilacs on Gates Street.

New Business

Agenda Items for Next Commission Meeting

Discuss tree to plant at Lyman Point Park.

Next Meeting

October 17, 2023

Adjourn

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by: Jeff Arnold No Quorum _____

Seconded by: Clare Forseth _____

All in Favor: All Opposed: None

Respectfully submitted by: Clare Forseth, secretary

Signature: Clare Forseth

Date: 10/17/2023

Hartford Tree Board Commission Members

- Jeff Arnold, Chair (03/07/2025)
- Clare Forseth, Secretary (11/15/2024)
- David Barrell, Treasurer (06/01/2023)
- Leif Smedman, Member (06/01/2023)
- Jim Henderson, Tree Warden
- Alan Haehnel (2026)
- Vacant (1 positions)

