

HARTFORD TREE BOARD MINUTES

Date March 19, 2024 | Time 5 pm | Meeting called to order by Jeff Arnold

Commission Members In Attendance

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

Commission Members Absent

None

Others in Attendance

Scott Hausler, Director of Parks and Recreation, Ida Griesemer, Select board liaison, Daniel Ramirez, property owner

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Alan Haehnel. Seconded by: Gaal Shepherd Crowl

In Favor All _____ Opposed None _____

The motion was Approved or Disapproved? _____

Citizen Comments

None

Commission Member Comments

None

Directors Report

None

Old Business

1) Tree Warden Report: Kilowatt North and Lyman Point

Daniel Ramirez's whose property abuts town property at Kilowatt Park North previously planted a sycamore tree and a yellow birch on Town Property with the Rec Dept's permission. He is now seeking permission to plant more native plants and trees on the town's abutting property. He would like to plant keystone species

that would help support many native pollinators and wildlife. Some of his stock will come from the NH state nursery and "Branch out Burlington". Some of the plants will be service berry, nanny berry, American plum and red cedars. The Board approved Dan's plans.

There was a discussion about the recent power company spraying a large section under the lines at Kilowatt Park and how the Town and power companies should have a meeting to discuss how to mitigate the growth of vegetation without using herbicides.

Two maple trees, a white pine, a butternut, and a black spruce (all hazard trees) were removed from Lyman Point Park as was planned.

2) Review of Environmental Stewardship Mix and Mingle: At the meeting, Jeff presented the work that was done at the riparian buffer at Town Hall which was the latest Board project. About 11 area entities involved in the environment presented what projects they are working on.

3) Update on Lyman Point Grant Project: Scott will be getting bids on the architectural plans for the park and then the board will be in a better position to place the 7 trees that are part of the Grant that the Board was awarded. Jeff will look into getting the stumps ground. Clare will talk to Karen Douville about the memorial plaque that will need a granite base and where to plant the memorial hackberry tree.

4) Pick location for April Tree Identification Walk: The trail down to the Quechee Gorge is too steep for some elderly walkers. A suggestion to visit and walk the Veterans' Administration campus was made. Continued discussion can be done at the April meeting. The tree walk is scheduled for May 18th.

5) Tree of the Month resumption: Clare will choose a newly planted tree in White River for April Tree of the Month, but would like suggestions for trees in public and accessible places in the other villages.

6) Current urban forestry news: Department of Forestry Program and Council are asking for nominations for the Unsung Hero category for the 29th Urban Community and Forestry awards. The board will look into nominating Daniel Ramirez for his work on the section of land of the Kilowatt North Park.

A young boy planted many yellowbud hickory trees (bitternut hickory) for their nuts. Although bitter, many animals can still eat them and they supply a good deal of nourishment. Silvapasture techniques allow animals to graze under trees so both trees and animals are supported and the bitternut leaves contain lots of calcium. They can also produce 41 gallons of pleasant tasting oil because the nuts have a 75-80 oil content high in oleic acid. Planting nut trees in the sun will allow the nuts to mature early. On another topic, large trees are more efficient in purifying the air and should be planted in best conditions with amended soils. The sequester more carbon, provide more shade and noise dampening, more prevention against stormwater runoff and more filtering of dust.

UPCOMING DATES: May 4th ARBOR DAY TREE SALE; May 11th Root Stock Planting at Nursery; May 18th Tree ID Walk; Thursday, May 23rd VT Urban and Community Workshop

New Business

Agenda Items for Next Commission Meeting

Tree ID Walk decision.

Next Meeting

April 16, 2024

Adjourn

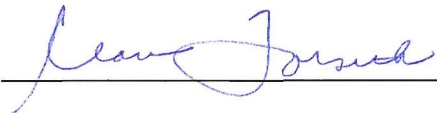
Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by: Leif Smedman

Quorum _____

Seconded by: Gaal Shepherd Crowl

All in Favor: all Opposed: none _____

Respectfully submitted by: Clare Forseth

Signature: 

Date: March 21, 2024

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)
- Gaal Shepherd Crowl (2/10/25)
- Alan Haehnel (2026)
- Jeff Arnold, Tree Warden
- Vacant (1 positions)