

HARTFORD TREE BOARD MINUTES

5/21/24 | 5 pm | Meeting called to order by Jeff Arnold

Commission Members In Attendance

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

Commission Members Absent

Gaal Shepherd Crawl, Mike Copp

Others in Attendance

N/A

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by: . Seconded by:

In Favor Opposed

The motion was Approved or Disapproved? Approved

Citizen Comments

None

Commission Member Comments

None

Directors Report

None

Old Business

The Harford Tree Board welcomes Mike Copp as a member. We are now a full seven person board.

1) Tree Warden Report: 1685 Bliss Road inspection, Roundabout crabapple at intersection of Rt 4 and Rt 5 in White River Junction must be removed; removal of 3 groups of box elders around the War Veterans Memorial at Veteran's Park.

Two trees leaning over Bliss Road toward the house opposite them will need to come down when budgeting permits. The state is building a roundabout at the intersection of Rt 4 and 5 by the Tea House store and the crabapple that we planted will have to be removed as a result. Three groups of boxelders were leaning toward

the new World War memorial and to remove the threat, I decided to have them cut down by Timber Tenders using the Rec Dept budget.

2) Review our very successful Arbor Day Sale.

We sold \$3318 worth of shrubs, perennials and trees. We sold 64 out of the 80 items commissioned to us by Northern Nurseries for a profit of \$416 and another \$44 in contributions towards the pots that Jon Bouton gave away and \$66 for the sale of 3 t-shirts and \$54 for the pagoda dogwoods and lilacs that Gaal contributed and another \$1074 for the sale of our rootstock including 20 Dogwood Red Twigs, Willow Coral Barks, Belgian Red Willows that Clare got for free at Shelbourne Farms this spring. Our overall net profits after Northern Nursery was paid was \$1610.

3) Review of Tree ID walk at the Veterans Administration. Five people came to the walk. We expected more to attend given the novel setting but the doctor and his wife from Florida, two elderly lady friends and an artist were very curious about all the trees on the walk so it was a lot of fun sharing with them. Gaal, Leif and Jeff led the walk. Clare made a booklet that contained descriptions of the trees that the walk would identify.

4) Logistics of root stock planting to maximize efficiency and organize the nursery.

2 gallon pots were purchased for Clare's 30 plants, 10 Nannyberries, 10 Serviceberries and 10 speckled alders. 3 gallons was purchased for 42 other rootstock, including 10 black cherries, 10 American Hazelnuts, 6 Tamaracks, 15 Sycamores, 5 Silver Maples and 6 Elderberries. We will meet at 9 AM and Mike, Jeff, Clare, Leif and Alan will help.

5) Distribute Arbor Day conference tickets to those who will be attending.

6) Next steps at Lyman. The stumps still have not been removed. Results of the landscape architect's plan for the park are not done yet. How the plan impact the location of the trees that we intend to plant there.

Clare and Karen Douville "placed" the hackberry on the edge of riparian buffer near the pine that was taken down. Clare will tag the trees at Northern Nurseries to be planted at the park. Jeff, Clare and Scott will talk next week about the riparian buffer project and planting the hackberry.

7) Plans for any summer activities. Late summer Tree ID walk and cleanout of invasives and dead crabapples at the High School/Rt 5 Intersection. Watering and weeding of nursery.

The watering schedule will be: June: Clare, Alan; July: David, Leif, Jeff; August: Gaal, Mike.

8) Current urban forestry news. Sweden has a very elaborate system of planting their street trees. They dig a very large rectangular 4 foot deep hole which is filled half way with angular granite stones from $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1.5 inches in diameter that is mixed with biochar and compost. The biochar is very good at holding water and the granite prevents compaction and allows spaces for roots. An inlet is placed into the box to allow additional water and CO₂ from root metabolism to escape. Montpelier has copied the Stockholm Sweden model and has planted four trees in this fashion.

Agenda Items for Next Commission Meeting

None

Next Meeting

June 18, 2024 at 5 PM

Adjourn

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by: Leif Smedman No Quorum _____

Seconded by: Jeff Arnold _____

All in Favor: All _____ Opposed: _____ None _____

Respectfully submitted by: Clare Forseth __ Signature: _____

Date: 5/22/24 _____

Hartford Tree Board Commission Members

- Jeff Arnold, Chair (03/07/2025)
- Clare Forseth, Secretary (11/15/2024)
- David Barrell, Treasurer (06/25/2026)
- Leif Smedman, Member (06/25/2026)
- Gaal Shepherd Crawl Member and Deputy Tree Warden (2/10/25)
- Alan Haehnel Member (6/25/2026)
- Mike Copp (5/13/2027)
- Jeff Arnold, Tree Warden