

HARTFORD TREE BOARD MINUTES

11/19/24 | 5 pm | *Meeting called to order by* _Jeff Arnold_____

Commission Members In Attendance

Jeff Arnold, Chair, Leif Smedman, Alan Haehnel, Jazmin Guyette, Mike Copp, David Barrell, Clare Forseth

Commission Members Absent

None

Others in Attendance

Scott Housler, Director of Parks and Recreation

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Alan Haehnel_____. Seconded by: Jazman Guyette_____

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) Tree Warden Report:

- Pine on Charles St and Templeton Avenue: The private property owners gave permission to use their land for staging the removal of the tree.
- Savage Cemetery proposal acceptance: Timber Tenders won the bid at \$16220.
- Outstanding Honey Locust pruning and air spading job. Jeff is working on getting three bids.
- Pine St. replacement trees: The dead elm tree and the dead katsura trees were replaced with a European hornbeam, *Carpinus betulus fastigiata* and a Freeman maple, *Acer x freemanii*.

- Clare will call and see if they can water the trees at Lyman Point Park because there has been a severe drought and burnt permits are not being issued by the Town. Clare found out that Jim Lamontagne watered the 8 trees when they were planted to remove any harmful air pockets around the roots and then he watered two more times after that.
- 2) Riparian Buffer Project updates on 2023 and 2024 projects: Work day outcomes made on October 26th . Six trees were planted in Lyman Point Park: a white oak, katsura, yellow birch, memorial hackberry, swamp white oak and a Kentucky coffeetree. The sassafras tree didn't get ordered and will be planted later this year or next spring.
- Jazmin inquired as to how the decision was made to plant those particular trees considering the Tree Board's mission statement has the Tree Board planting an historic canopy. It was discussed that the board tries to balance the planting of native trees to also include a vision for Lyman Point Park to become an arboretum type environment with some unusual trees that climate change has allowed to grow. She cautioned the Board that sometimes exotic species are hosts to invasive pests.

3) Outcome of the November 1st Tree ID walk that was supported and advertised by Ben Lay, an employee of the Upper Valley CO-OP Food Store on North Main Street to coincide with White River Junction's First Friday events:

- The walk was well attended and the group walked from the Main St. CoOp to Town Hall and Lyman Point Park and back.

4) Urban Forestry News Items: Familiarizing ourselves with some of the new species that we have planted and will plant:

- European hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus fastigiata*): a columnar version; popular for firewood in England because it coppices so well; the bark is smooth and it is a member of the birch family.
- Hackberry (*Celtis*): Needs 6 hrs of direct sunlight, supports many wildlife including butterflies and bees.
- Katsura (*Cercidiphyllum*): medium to tall tree of Japanese origin with heart shaped leaves that smell like cotton candy.
- Kentucky coffee tree (*Gymnocladus dioica*): large doubly-compound leaves and textured bark, with long tap roots. Native of Indiana and its leaves were used as a substitute for coffee in the past by settlers.
- Discussion of Dartmouth Study on Urban Tree Planting. In 2023, the U.S. Forest Service announced a \$1 billion campaign to expand access to trees and green spaces throughout the country including cities. A Dartmouth led study found that although cities were planting drought tolerant, more diverse, more native and more climate adaptable trees, private land owners were planting less sustainable trees which is a problem since 30% of the land area in the U.S. is residential land.

New Business

None

Agenda Items for Next Commission Meeting

Talk about and update the spreadsheet for projects and discuss a spreadsheet to track new tree plantings.

Next Meeting

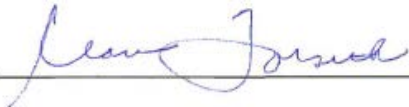
December 17, 2024

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: 11/21/24 _____

Hartford Tree Board Commission Members

- Jeff Arnold, Chair (03/07/2025)
- Clare Forseth, Secretary (11/15/2027)
- David Barrell, Treasurer (06/01/2026)
- Leif Smedman, Member (06/01/2026)
- Alan Haehnel, Member (
- Jazmin Guyette, Member (8/27)
- Mike Copp, Member (5/27)
- Jeff Arnold,, Tree Warden