

HARTFORD TREE BOARD MINUTES

12/17/24 | 5 pm | *Meeting called to order by* _Jeff Arnold_____

Commission Members In Attendance

Jeff Arnold, Chair, Clare Forseth

Commission Members Absent

Leif Smedman, Alan Haehnel, Jazman Guyette, Mike Copp, David Barrell

Others in Attendance

Scott Housler, Director of Parks and Recreation

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by _____. Seconded by: _____

In Favor _____ Opposed _____

The motion was Approved or Disapproved? November minutes will be voted on at January 21,2025 meeting.

Citizen Comments

None

Commission Member Comments

None

Directors Report

None

Old Business

1) Tree Warden Preview of his Annual Activity Report. An historic apple tree needed to be taken down across from the DBS School on Brick House Lane. The roots infiltrated the house basement and it was not in good shape. Mr. Bump from the State Department of Transportation and Jeff looked at the tree and they decided the State would take down the tree.

Jeff highlighted the Tree Warden's Annual Activity Report he wrote for the Town Report. In summary,

Hazardous and dead tree removals:

8 silver maples on Highland Ave
2 Norway Maples in Ratcliffe Park
3 clumps of boxelders at Veterans Park
6 ash, 1 cherry and one maple at Westfield Rd and W. Hartford Rd.
4 Oak Trees at Barwood Ice Arena
1 Elm and 1 katsura sapling on Pine St.
1 Elm on Hartford Ave
1 Butternut on Christian St.
1 mature apple tree at Brickhouse Lane across from DBS performed by state
22 different trees at Savage Cemetery
2 sugar maples, 1 pine, 1 butternut and 1 black Spruce at Lyman Point

Planted:

5 donated red maples at Maxfield
1 Freemanii Maple and one European Hornbeam on the Pine St. median

Pruning and cabling

Pruned and cabled maple at Hartford Library
Pruned and removed undergrowth of 21 others at Savage Cemetery
Cabled two sugar maples in Lyman Point Park

Treated 3 ash at Ratcliffe Park and 7 ash at Veterans Park with emamectin to prevent EAB damage

2) Preview of Tree Board's Annual Activity Report -Jeff highlighted the report he wrote for the Town Report.

Vermont Urban & Community Program (VTUCF) accepted our Communities Caring for Canopy matching grant for \$20,000 (\$10,000 grant + \$10,000 matching). The objective is to remove the Japanese knotweed along Lyman Point Park and raise the riparian buffer's canopy, plant 30 indigenous shrubs (10 speckled alders, 10 Nannyberries, 10 Serviceberries), remove 5 dying trees and plant 8 trees within the park.

Completed the final report for the 2023 matching grant from VTUCF for \$6340 for which we planted a plane/Sycamore tree, a swamp oak and a Katsura on Pine St. to replace three dead elms removed at that site, covered a 3000 sq ft area of knotweed with 10mm plastic and cleared out the invasives along 200 ft of the riparian buffer and

planted 40 indigenous shrubs of arrowwood, nannyberry and serviceberry and cleared the knotweed below Bridge St. and planted 15 trees.

We planted a hackberry tree in memory of Linda Wilson who was one of the first employees of Upper Valley Land Trust and active in many environmental issues locally and served on the Hartford Conservation Commission. We placed a plaque at the base of the tree and donated \$300 towards the cause.

Jeff spoke at the at the Environmental Stewardship Mix and Mingle on February 29, 2024 at the Bugbee Center alongside 8 other representatives from other conservation minded local non-profits.

We planted 78 rootstock in our nursery.

We sold \$3318 worth of shrubs, perennials and trees at our May 5th Arbor Day Sale.

We held three Tree Identification walks; one at the end of May 18th at the Veterans Administration, one August 24th at Hartford Point Cemetery and collaborated with North Main St Food Coop to give a Tree ID walk on November 1st.

3) Consider options for placing QR codes on trees planted by the municipality or tree board; what that may look like, what the committee should consider and/or need to roll out for the project.

Jazmin will report her research in January. Jeff was in contact with Certag who has QR tags for \$7.50 each. We could use their software to put info on the tree on the QR. The tag would need to be attached to the tree. Maybe a temporary laminated tag could be put on trees in Lyman Point Park attached to the metal wiring.

4) Urban Forestry News Items: Whiskey fungus blight caused by alcohol fumes emitted from Jack Daniels barrels is coating trees and choking trees to death in Lincoln County Tennessee and York Maine.

Agenda Items for Next Commission Meeting

Talk about and update the spreadsheet for projects and discuss a spreadsheet to track new tree plantings.
Review research on QR tagging.

Next Meeting

January 21, 2025

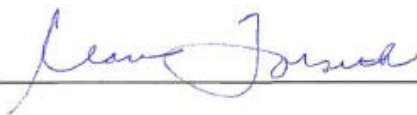
Adjourn

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

Seconded by: _____

All in Favor: _____ Opposed: _____

Respectfully submitted by: Clare Forseth

Signature:  _____

Date: 12/19/24 _____

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 (2026)
- Jazman Guyette, Member (8/27)
- Mike Copp, Member (5/27)
- Jeff Arnold,, Tree Warden