CITY OF CONCORD

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Conservation Commission Tree Sub-Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2026 @ 8:00 AM

Council Chambers, City Hall Annex,

37 Green Street (2nd Floor) - Concord, NH 03301

In Attendance:

Subcommittee Members: Tom Daigle (Chair), Craig Tufts (Vice Chair), Peter Breu, Stacey Brown, Rick Chormann, Elizabeth Corell, Ted Diers, John Regan, Steve Winnett, Liz McKinley

Absent: none

Staff: Beth Fenstermacher, Director of Special Projects and Strategic Initiatives of Community Development; Stefanie Breton, Public Information Officer

Chair Daigle called the meeting to order at 8:03 A.M.

1. **Adoption of March 27, 2026 Minutes**

   Mr. Regan moved the approval of the March 27, 2026, minutes as written. Mr. Chormann seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

2. **2026 Committee Goals:**

   a. Tree Champion 2026

   Ms. Fenstermacher reported 3 applications were received. Members discussed extending the deadline to April 30th. Chair Daigle mentioned the possibility of presenting at a May 12th Chamber event at Turner Group. Members expressed concern with a quick turnaround; Chair Daigle will confirm with the Chamber if this is even a possibility. If so, the Tree Champion subcommittee will meet immediately after the 4/30 deadline to select a recipient so that Mr. Breu can prepare the award plaque in time.

   b. Unitil Tree Donation

   Ms. Corell identified locations for at least 4 trees; Ms. Fenstermacher confirmed that 2 trees will go to Woodside School. The subcommittee will continue to attempt to find locations for the 4 remaining trees. The trees will be delivered the week of May 4th to Ms. Corell and Chair Daigle's properties; they will care for the trees until the time comes to plant.

   There was discussion about who was expected to the plant the trees. Ms. McKinley, Ms. Corell, Mr. Breu, Mr. Regan, and Chair Daigle all expressed interest in helping with plantings if the recipient would like assistance. Discussion ensued around sharing planting and maintenance instructions, and procuring mulch/compost for plantings. Discussion continued to the May meeting to finalize details, with anticipated planting the final week in May.

   c. Invasive Vines

   Mr. Winnett handed out a draft of the invasive removal/treatment calendar for review and discussion. Ms. Fenstermacher reported that Casella confirmed they will collect invasive vines in bags at the transfer station/regular trash pick-up. Mr. Winnett would like to finalize documents before May 5th.

   Ms. Fenstermacher reported that she also spoke with Mark Feigl from the Merrimack River Watershed Council, and he met with the Recreation Policy Advisory Committee to coordinate an invasives clean up at Healy Park. When the date is set, she'll forward the information for members to volunteer.

Mr. Regan reported that he and Mr. Winnett attended an invasives clean up in Goffstown, and provided information on the organization of the event.

d. Farmers' Market

Mr. Diers will reach out to Merrimack County Conservation District regarding availability of bare root trees to hand out. The first Tree subcommittee attendance at the market will be either May 16th or 23rd, pending confirmation of the tree availability. Mr. Diers will reach out to Ms. Corell and Mr. Regan to finalize the date.

3. Follow up

a. Opportunities to collaborate with Havenwood Heritage Heights (HHH)

Mr. Regan and Mr. Winnett plan to attend the Earth Day event at HHH on April 22nd at 11 am.

b. Fundraising/Grant opportunities

Ms. McKinley reported that Christa McAuliffe Elementary School will be receiving a tree through the Schoolyard Canopy Enhancement program. The planting will take place around the 1st week in May.

Mr. Regan reached out to Unitil; Heather Otero from Unitil indicated that the City will likely receive a future monetary donation for tree plantings, as in the past.

6. New Business

a. Ms. Brown reported that in her capacity as a City Councilor, she will be hosting a walk with Councilor Kalob at Memorial Field with a Tree Assessor to review the trees removed at Memorial Field. Ms. Fenstermacher requested that they speak with City Staff that facilitated the removal prior to this event so that the Tree Assessor can make an informed decision with all of the facts.

b. Ms. Brown is doing a tree tour with Bob Pollock on May 1st.

c. Ms. McKinley reported that she will have a table at the upcoming Wild NH Day at Fish & Game Headquarters on April 19th.

d. There was discussion about created a calendar of events that can be shared to all members, or adding events to the agenda. Tabled for future discussion.

7. Other Business

a. Arbor Day/Earth Day Tree Planting 2026

Ms. Fenstermacher reported that 2 trees will be planted at Rollins Park on Wednesday, April 22nd at 10 am.

8. Next Meeting Date

May 22, 2026 at 8 a.m.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Corell. The motion was seconded by Mr. Regan. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 9:03 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth Fenstermacher