CITY OF CONCORD

New Hampshire's Main Street™

41 Green Street, Concord NH 03301

(603) 225-8570

Conservation Commission Tree Sub-Committee

Meeting Minutes

May 22, 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, Rick Chormann, Elizabeth Corell, Ted Diers, John Regan

Absent: Stacey Brown, Steve Winnett

Guests: Robert Pollock: Jo Russavage, UNH Cooperative Extension

Staff: Beth Fenstermacher, Director of Special Projects and Strategic Initiatives of Community Development

Chair Daigle called the meeting to order at 8:06 A.M.

1. **Adoption of April 17, 2026 Minutes**

   Ms. Corell moved the approval of the April 17, 2026, minutes as written. Mr. Regan seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

2. **Bob Pollock and Tree Tour Policy**

   Mr. Pollock was present and provided a history of his research on significant trees in Concord. He has hosted tree tours with his NHTI students for decades, and has compiled a book that he is working with Jim Milliken to have published locally. The book ties the trees to significant events in history; he hopes that the book will be a valuable tool for teachers in Concord. In the past, he shared information with the Tree Subcommittee, and was under the impression that recent tours he participated in were sponsored by the committee, and recently learned that was not the case. Going forward, he wants to ensure that his legacy is shared with the City of Concord using the Tree Subcommittee as the conduit. Further, any future tours should be sponsored so that he can be fairly compensated to cover his time and mileage. Members agreed that he should receive an honorarium for his intellectual property. There was discussion about the best approach to start the transfer of data. Ms. Fenstermacher suggested that the UNH intern starting in June would be able to work on this with Mr. Pollock. She will reach out to schedule something in June.

   Ms. Russavage suggested creating tours that are within walking distance of schools.

3. **2026 Committee Goals:**

   a. Tree Champion 2026

   Chair Daigle reported that the Tree Champion subcommittee met and selected Bob Pollock as the recipient of the award this year. The award ceremony is proposed to coincide with the fundraising event at Feathered Friends, tentatively scheduled for June 17th.

   b. Unitil Tree Donation

   Two of the trees were planted at the Woodside School with the assistance of Chair Daigle and Mr. Regan. Ms. Corell identified takers for 3 of the trees, Ms. Fenstermacher found takers for two of the trees. Members were tasked to find homes for the remaining 3 trees.

   c. Invasive Vines

Chair Daigle printed materials and will have them laminated for future farmers' market events. Further discussion postponed to next meeting when Mr. Winnett returns.

d. Farmers' Market

Ms. Corell attended the May 16th market and handed out bare root trees and sustainable tree program information. Mr. Regan will attend the 5/23 market and will also hand out trees and information.

4. Follow up

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

Nothing to report.

b. Fundraising/Grant opportunities

Mr. Diers confirmed that the fundraising event at Feathered Friends will be a Trivia Night. We need to come up with the questions, and assign volunteers as the MC, scorekeeper, and raffle ticket sales person. Mr. Breu is creating pens from the old State House Norway Maple, and can also create cutting boards or bowls, all to be donated as raffle prizes. Ms. Russavage will donate a prize from the UNH Cooperative Extension library. Others on the committee will seek additional raffle prizes. Chair Daigle will set up a shared Google Doc to start compiling trivia questions for all to contribute. Mr. Diers will talk to the Feathered Friends about advertising the even through their social media. The tentative date is June 17th, with a back-up date of July 8th. Mr. Diers to confirm with Feathered Friends.

6. New Business

a. Ms. Russavage announced that she is organizing forester and author Ethan Tapper (*How to Love a Forest and soon-to-be-published The Forest Year: Finding Hope in a World Worth Saving*) to speak at several Master Gardener and Natural Resources Stewards events in October, one of which will be a morning event in Concord. She asked if the Tree Subcommittee would be interested in supporting/promoting/attending the event. Members were enthusiastic about being involved; this item will be on future agendas for further coordination and planning.

7. Other Business

a. Arbor Day/Earth Day Tree Planting 2026

Mr. Regan reported that 2 trees were planted at Rollins Park on Wednesday, April 22nd.

8. Next Meeting Date

June 26, 2026 at 8 a.m.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth Fenstermacher