CITY OF CONCORD

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Conservation Commission Tree Sub-Committee

Meeting Minutes

October 22, 2026 @ 8:00 AM - DRAFT

Council Chambers

37 Green Street, Concord, NH

In Attendance:

Subcommittee Members: Tom Daigle (Chair), Craig Tufts (Vice Chair), Elizabeth Corell, John Regan, Steve Winnett, Rick Chormann, Peter Breu

Absent: Stacey Brown, Ted Diers, Brooke Gauthier

Guests: Liz McKinley, DNCR; 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 8:03 A.M.

1. **Adoption of September 22, 2026 Minutes**

   Mr. Regan moved the approval of the September 22, 2026, minutes as written. Ms. Corell seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

2. **October 24th Ethan Tapper event**

   Ms. Russavage provided an update on the planning for the October 24th event with forester and author Ethan Tapper. She reported that the morning walk has additional space available if the Tree Subcommittee would like to extend the invitation. Ms. Fenstermacher will send the link to the Conservation Commission. Ms. Russavage reported that 33 people have purchased tickets for the afternoon event at the Forest Society.

3. **Committee Procedures**

   Ms. Fenstermacher reported that the Tree Subcommittee will be receiving an email from the City Clerks office with copies of the City's Code of Ethics, and a request to sign an oath, as other City Boards and Committee members as required to do. She reported that she emailed members a memo from the City Solicitor about the RSA 91-A right to know requirements. Further, she will request that the Conservation Commission adopt a formal organizing policy to establish term limits, same as other Boards and Committees in the City.

4. **Bob Pollock Tree Tour Policy**

   Chair Daigle will organize a meeting with Bob Pollock, Ms. Gauthier, and Ms. Fenstermacher to discuss a plan for moving forward. Ms. Corell asked if this subcommittee will look at how to fundraise for Mr. Pollocks stipend. Mr. Winnett indicated that he would like to be involved and lead tours.

5. **Follow up**

   a. Invasive Vines and Farmers Market

      Mr. Winnett reported that he would like to form a group of interested volunteers to go out every weekend to focus on bittersweet clean-up in addition to a few, bigger educational events. Ms. Russavage suggested scheduling the educational events around key dates in the invasive removal calendar. Mr. Winnett reported that the Merrimack River Watershed Council (MRWC) is hosting an invasives removal event on private property along the Contoocook

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River on October 25th. The subcommittee discussed strengthening the relationship with MRWC to collaborate on future events. Mr. Winnett will invite Mark Feigl from MRWC to the next meeting.

b. Opportunities to collaborate

Chair Daigle will be attending an upcoming Chamber event with a goal to continue to grow the relationship with the Chamber. Mr. Winnett reported that he has spoken to Rundlett Middle School and Concord High School about school projects with students to remove invasives.

UNH Cooperative Extension and the State continue to be great partners that the subcommittee would like to continue working with.

c. Fundraising/Grant opportunities

Ms. McKinley reported that the trees awarded to Christ McAuliffe School will be planted next spring. The Schoolyard Canopy Enhancement program will be offered again next year.

Mr. Regan reported that Unitil donated $150 to the City. Mr. Regan suggested partnering with a non-profit/501c3 organization to help fundraise. Chair Daigle suggested that the subcommittee could draft a 1-pager about the fundraising efforts, and perhaps be used to seek corporate sponsorships.

6. New Business

a. State House Trees – Ms. McKinley reported that new Cherry trees were planted and sugar maples gifted by Canada will be planted soon.

b. Public comments – Chris Moore, a resident of Cypress Street asked to provide comments to the subcommittee. He reported that the City is proposing sidewalks on Cypress Street, which could result in the removal of trees. This work is related to the bus route for the new Middle School. Chair Daigle stated the Tree Subcommittee does not have any jurisdiction over this matter. Mr. Moore acknowledged, but wanted to make the Tree SC aware.

7. Next Meeting Date

Thursday, November 19, 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 9:07 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth Fenstermacher

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