

**Village of Essex Junction  
Tree Advisory Committee  
Minutes of Meeting  
April 20, 2022**

Members Present: Nick Meyer, Warren Spinner, Steve Rivard, Rich Boyers

Community Guests: Christopher Kline, Max Seaton

**I. Call To Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 by Nick.

**II. Additions or Amendments to Agenda**

No additions or amendments.

**III. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve March meeting minutes was made by Rich, second by Warren.

**IV. BOB Nursery Planting Day**

Nick conveyed that it is important to have a good showing from the Junction to help with the Branch Out Burlington planting day. He will post the information on Front Porch Forum and seek volunteers to assist with planting.

**VI. Planting 2022**

Warren indicated that the trees in the nursery need to be moved and planted before the BOB Nursery Day Planting Day. AB Tree Care will dig trees and move. Warren contacted Rick Jones, in Public Works, and shared the locations for grinding stumps of the ash trees that were removed. All locations have been identified and homeowners have been notified.

Warren commented that all trees that are being planted have been raised in grow bags in the nursery, a significant savings to the Village.

**VI. Arbor Day Event, May 6**

Nick shared that he has been in contact with Brian Neufeld at Albert D. Lawton School and Brian's students will assist in the planting of four trees on ADL's property. Rich suggested that Nick ask Brian to identify students to take a leadership role to facilitate the planting. In addition, the planting, students will be made aware of issues related to Emerald Ash Borer.

**VII. ADL Ash Treatment**

Warren talked to Chris Detillio, the physical plant coordinator at the high school about treating ash trees. Chris is currently investigating. Warren shared potential cost and information. The cost of treatment of ash trees will need to come from the school budget.

### **VIII. Public Engagement**

Nick suggested that committee provide updates on Front Porch Forum such as BOB events and videos on tree care. Nick also noted that Tree City USA banner is out in front of Lincoln Hall. Nick asked about other thoughts to engage the community. Sharing information on relevant topics such as Songy Moth was discussed. Steve indicated that we could use the information from the Burlington Free Press. Warren suggested that we should update the Maple Street Tree Walk with labels. The committee discussed the use of QR codes and how they might be affixed to trees. There was also a discussion about organizing a neighborhood tree walk, possibly in the fall.

Warren shared that the Tree City Zoom Awards Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, May 17th from 7 to 8 pm. Elise Schadler, from Vermont Urban and Community Forestry asked the Tree Committee to share photos that highlights the work that the Committee has done. Warren will send out a link.

Nick shared that he did a write up on the Committees work for the Village report. In addition, Nick conveyed that Planning and Zoning accepted suggestions how the Tree Committee could be involved with the development process and rewrite of the land development code.

### **XI. Date for Next Meeting and Adjournment**

Nick made a motion to adjourn, 2nd Rich. The next meeting is scheduled for August 16th.