

January 2025 Essex Tree Committee Minutes 01/23/2025

In Attendance: Nick Meyer, Leslie Goldring, Warren Spinner, Steve Rivard, Max Seaton, Rich Boyers, Ashley Snellenberger.

November Minutes: Approved.

Public to be heard: None.

Additions to Agenda: See Below

Summary Spring and Fall 2024 Plantings: Warren advised 25 Spring, 13 Fall, + 32 Planted under contract for Crescent Connector primarily Elms, Maples and Hackberry. 70 total for the year. Nick added that 331 trees added since 2012.

Grants: In process of final review, Ashley working on this. RFP put out to 6 contractors.

Tree Walk: Leslie working on 15 enhanced individual tree signage (tags) to include QR codes for Maple Street Park. Same trees to be used however in different sequence. Inside the fence trees only. Potential for cooperation with ADL Teacher Brian. Steve will reach out to Professor Declan McCabe at St Mikes to schedule a tree walk in the future.

City Informational Budget Luncheon: At the Fairgrounds, Nick to host a table, to encourage volunteers, present the value of local trees, EAB Problems, a photo journal and 2024 Essex Tree Committee plantings

2025 Plantings: 18 trees from the Grant. 16 Available for this year at the Branch Out Burlington Tree Nursery. 10 of these have assigned locations. 2 Trees for Arbor day planting with be from the Nursery. Additional planting locations TBD. Potential for continued planting on Cushing St, Lavoie, Old Colchester Road and Main St.

Amtrak new station: Warren advised Phase 1 new platform mostly complete upcoming remove and replace 1 tree to be planted in Silva Cell. Seeking qualified contractors.

Arbor Day: May 25 2025 Committee will schedule a planting at Fleming or Summit Schools, or potential for Hiawatha. Brownell Library seeking advice on a tree planting as part of their Eco, global warming project.

1 Main St Pocket Park: Nick advised that the budget will not support a larger tree at this location. Nick and Warren have submitted correct choices. 1 tree to be planted in a Silva Cell. Additional planters to be added. Nick to contact Chris for an update.

Updated City Tree Policy: being updated. Changes such as our work on private property are under question, other changes expected, some items need to be in ordinance language.

Tree City USA: Application Warren advised that this has been completed.

Reminder: Committee members must complete the Ethics Training CBT.

Next Meeting: Thursday February 27, 4 pm at the library. All meetings will be held at this location until further notice.