

**Barre City Tree Stewardship Committee - Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting (Virtual)**

January 13, 2021 at 5:00 pm-6:00pm (Every Second Wednesday of Month)

Google Meets Call-in: [1-567-307-4446](tel:1-567-307-4446) PIN: [256803737](https://meet.google.com/nfj-exmz-qkr?authuser=0)

Google Meets Link: <https://meet.google.com/nfj-exmz-qkr?authuser=0>

Committee Members Present: Amanda Garland, Nate Ebert, Amy Galford, Conor Teal

Agenda

1. Call to Order

Amanda called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

2. Check-ins/Housekeeping

Committee decided to change the time of the regular meeting start time: 5:30pm - 6:30pm. Will update City Staff to adjust time on Committee Website.

3. Tree Warden Statutes and Review

Committee will contact Barre City Tree Warden, Jeff Bergeron, to confirm updates with recent Warden Statutes, according to: Vermont Community Forestry.

4. Announcements

Amanda: Has been in contact with MotherUp through 350.org. Their program: "Rewild" (<https://350vermont.org/rewild-vermont/>) aims to plant 100,000 trees in Vermont by 2022. Currently planting small seedlings, under 18". Their goal is to focus in urban landscapes and increase natural flora. Elmwood Cemetery was the site of a past planting through them. Also a site on Brook St. near the asphalt recycling area, also edge of a soccer field. Wet area, hard to plant. MotherUp! organizes their own list of volunteers, planting free seedlings on municipal land. Amanda requests of the committee to search for other potential open space sites that may be suitable for new seedlings. Committee can decide date and times for planting at next regular meeting.

Nate: Suggested a planting date around Arbor Day? Committee agreed. Vermont's Arbor Day is First Friday of May.

Committee held discussion around planting these donated trees, recommendations of types of trees, siting considerations.

Nate: Update on status of tree guards ordered online?

Amanda: No update yet.

Action Item #1: Members are going to use city website to search city-owned properties for planting opportunities, consider Brook St. Community Garden as the initial site.

5. City Tree Nursery Planning

Amanda: Request for siting the new tree nursery at the high school has been denied. And other school sites will not be considered either. She recommends committee also scout out city-owned land for other potential nursery sites this month.

Action Item #2: Members are going to use city website to search city-owned properties for tree nursery siting opportunities.

Committee goal for first nursery capacity: Grow minimum 50 seedlings. Around 50' x 50' area. Will need deer fencing, min 8 ft tall around perimeter. Consideration of a small shed on-site for maintenance materials.

Amanda: Recommends ordering trees soon. Committee needs to decide on species and supplier.

Nate: Will need to decide on location of site first, since that will effect selection. Considerations: open space trees, shade tolerant, sun tolerant, wet tolerant, street trees (salt tolerant), drought-tolerant.

Committee held discussion on types of trees that would be reasonable for future street trees for the City.

Amanda: Given the recommendations of diversity and taking into account differences in locations, asked the committee if 5 different species would be reasonable. Committee agreed that 5 species of 10 trees each would be sufficient.

Conor: Suggested the Committee scour the 2016 Tree Inventory Report for recommendations.

Committee had a brief discussion on imagining a public revealing event, promotion of the new tree nursery.

Action Item #3: Nate will follow-up on local tree suppliers/nurseries to find appropriate selections, cost-efficient options.

Action Item #4: Committee will submit order after final discussion at next regular meeting. Committee will search for recommended species and create a list, potentially holding a Special Meeting before February Regular Meeting to decide on.

6. Spring Tree Planting

Committee held discussion on upcoming spring planting. There are 4 vacant sites on North Main Street for new trees.

Nate: Shared that the cost of a 1.5" diameter tree can be more than double the cost of a 2.5" diameter tree, approximately \$150 compared to \$400.

Amanda: We have a tree budget enough to cover the cost of more than 4 trees, plus the intention to purchase tree guards. She will consult with the Tree Warden for opinion on spending recommendation.

Committee would like to plant 4 street trees on North Main Street and seek out other potential sites. Committee is comfortable with deciding on trees to purchase at next regular meeting.

Action Item #5: Amanda will contact the Tree Warden to hear his recommendation on tree planting on North Main Street.

7. Adjourn

Amanda motioned to adjourn at 6:03 pm, seconded by Conor.