

# Barre City Tree Committee

**Date:** 02/04/19

**Scheduled Time:** 6:00 pm

**Location:** Alumni Hall, 1st Floor Conference Room

**Committee Members Present:** Conor Teal, Nicko Rubin, Nate Ebert, Amanda Garland

**City Staff Not Present:** Jeff Bergeron

**Call to Order:** 6:05 pm by Member C. Teal

**Changes to Agenda: None**

## 1. Agenda Item: Committee Member Assignments

- Discussion around Committee Chair Assignment, Conor interested yet cautious.
- Consideration of Co-Chair roles and also seeking out new membership.
- Tabled until Jeff present.

## 2. Agenda Item: Barre City Tree Inventory Discussion

- Diversify!
  - No new Crabapples, or Maples.
- Need for Pruning- **201 trees** identified by 2016 tree inventory report that are in critical need.
  - What are the City's goals? Train someone on staff as a Certified Arborist? Basic skills for all employees? Follow up with Jeff.

## 3. Agenda Item: Main Street Trees Discussion

- Study of most recent site plan.
- Committee estimates **12 trees** to be replaced - will be confirmed by next meeting.
- No new trees without protective infrastructure - base, trunk, and water gator.
- Protective trunk guards for all trees on Main Street - will speak with Bill Ahearn about available options currently be considered and recommendations.
- Consideration of informational signs for citizen buy-in on private property.
- Possible downtown businesses involved in an "Adopt-A-Tree" program.
- Design and acquire stickers or tags with basic information on the trees.
- Perform soil tests, examine roots, spread in new mulch.

## 4. Agenda Item: Tree Planting Species List and Discussion:

- **Hackberry**
- **Ginkgo- sexed cultivars: all males recommended**
- **Little Leaf Linden**
- **Oaks- (Burr and Swamp White)**
- Amur Cork Tree
- Sycamore
- Horse Chestnut
- Crataegus (Hawthorn)
- Amur Maackia

**\*Highlighted are recommended trees for initial planting on Main Street project.**

**5. Agenda Item:** Outreach to Tree Professionals for meeting invites

- Suggestions- Kate Fornier, John Snell, UVM Urban Forestry

**Next Meeting Action Items:**

**Announcement:**

**Next committee meeting to be held at the Aldrich Public Library, 2nd floor Conference Room, March 4th at 6pm**

Nicko:

- Main Street Tree replacement estimate, including amendments for the new and current trees.

Jeff:

- Email Jeff: Does the City have a bucket truck available for tree pruning?
- Please purchase these basic tree care handbooks for city employees: Alex Shigo, more details to come
- Request from City: \$15,000 ballot item for the replacement and maintenance of the trees on Main Street.

Nate:

- Draft a Pruning Workshop proposal estimation.

Amanda:

- Email Mayor Herring and City Manager MacKenzie regarding new construction project proposals being evaluated by the Tree Committee for tree protection measures and planting suggestions in the future.
- Count the trees in need of replacement on Main Street.
- Email Jeff about Ballot Measure for new funding.
- Meet with Bill Ahearn.
  - Tree Infrastructure questions
  - Photograph the tree guard prototypes

Conor:

- Draft and send a Front Porch Forum message to announce the tree committee's formation, the next meeting location, and a request for public attendance, especially those who are interested in joining the committee.

**Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn at 7:31 pm by A. Garland and seconded by N. Ebert, passed unanimously.