

RECEIVED

2025 FEB 24 P 12: 48

Joel E. Apin
BRANFORD TOWN CLERK

**Community Forest Commission
Minutes, Special Meeting 1/16/2025**

Topic: Community Forest Commission Special Meeting

Date and Time: January 16, 2025 5:30 pm Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Location: Joseph Trapasso Community House

Attendees: Abigail Adams, Susan Hally, Ivy Kim, Shirley McCarthy, Gary Zielinski

Meeting convened at 5:43 pm

Approve November 21, 2024 minutes

Hally 1st motion, Adams 2nd motion

All approved

Business

1. FY 2024/2025 Tree Plantings

- a. Zielinski reports that fall trees were not planted due to drought. Trees are being overwintered and will be planted in the Spring.
- b. Zielinski reports that the IT Department has installed a new computer system which will inventory the tree plantings in town

2. Publicity

- a. Property identified as potential recipient of CFC award for ecological planting
Discussed speaking to property owner, award presentation ceremony, and publicity
Additional property identified to receive award in 2025
- b. Discussed adding information to CFC website re: protecting tree root zones during town center reconstruction
- c. Discussed **Spring Tree Giveaway** in May in conjunction with Branford Garden Club
Discussed ordering trees from Saratoga Tree Nursery, funding for trees and location for event

3. Regional Tree Commission Communications

- a. McCarthy presented information re: **Smart Growth** conservation strategies that help protect our health and environment
- b. McCarthy presented research report that describes state laws that govern utility companies' tree trimming and vegetation management practices
- c. Discussed proposed posting of tree removal and trimming by Eversource

4. Conwood Forestry Survey

- a. Discussed preliminary results of Conwood Survey. Meeting scheduled with forester to review findings

5. Residential Native Planting Project

- a. Discussed project to educate public through cross-commission/ Branford Garden Club involvement re: residential native plantings following guidelines from National Wildlife Federation, Pollinator Pathway or Doug Tallamy's Home Grown National Park

Hally 1st motion to adjourn, McCarthy 2nd motion, meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm