

Town of Brunswick

Tree Committee

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

7:00 PM

Zoom

Attendees: Jesse Bishop, Dennis Wilson, Jane Nichols-Ecker

MINUTES

I. New Business

a. Tree Nursery

A Tree Canopy Grant to establish the Brunswick Tree Nursery was approved for full funding last year. The nursery is 25 feet by 25 feet, with two 10 foot by 24 foot beds, and was designed to be expanded as needed (see attached photos). The nursery will allow Brunswick to grow trees that can't be purchased locally. The bulk of the work on the nursery was completed in July through September 2021. Remaining items to be completed include a gate, wire fence, and signage. A local artist, Tree Harmon-Hester, is working with children from Family Focus to create murals that will be installed at the tree nursery. The committee agreed to officially open the nursery during Arbor Week 2022.

b. Arbor Week 2022

The tree committee discussed a brief history of events that have been held for Arbor Week in Brunswick, including

- Mulching of trees on the Lower Mall
- A guided tree walk
- Tree plantings
- Local business outreach
- Town Council Proclamation

In addition to those past events, the tree committee would like to explore the idea of a Tree Sick Day, where committee members, the town Arborist, and local tree care professionals would be available for 15-minute consultations with community members to help them with their ailing trees, including a brief management plan. The committee would also like to fly the Tree City USA flag

on the mall for Arbor Week, if permission can be obtained to do so. The committee will use future meetings to complete plans for Arbor Week 2022.

c. 2021 Tree City USA Application

The 2021 Tree City USA application is nearly complete. The outstanding items are the proclamation read by the Town Council and an official signature. DOT approval was granted and a Tree City USA sign has been installed at the I-295/Route 1 intersection.

d. Chamberlain Ave Esplanade Reforestation

The Chamberlain Ave Esplanade is a small pine grove between Chamberlain Ave and Chamberlain Court. The trail through the grove has been rebuilt. The trees in the grove are reaching the end of their lives, but there is no new undergrowth of pine to replace the 2-3 large trees per year that are lost from the grove. New deciduous growth is being removed and the Tree Committee has offered to help planting new red pine, white pine, and pitch pine seedlings starting next summer or fall. The goal would be to plant 150-200 trees per year. Trees may be sourced from the state nursery.

II. Establish Meeting Dates

March 8 2022 7:00 PM

April 12 2022 7:00 PM

III. Other Business

The Tree Committee discussed other ways that members could help in between meetings. Some suggestions include revisiting and revising the overall management plan for town trees, working on an emerald ash borer management plan, and finding more members for the committee. The committee also briefly discussed winter moth. For more information on winter moth, visit the state forestry website.





