

Tree Committee 28 October 2021

Additions to Agenda

*Revised Minutes Draft (Addition A)

*Correspondence

130 Beach advising Tree Committee of obligations under new tree law (*Addition B*)

130 Beach regarding The Daily Show and trees (*Addition C*)

*Old Business

Trees for Removal

Rushmore Avenue Sycamore (*Addition D*) – not a VOM tree

Tree Law

RFP has been published, bids expected next week

There is one change to list sent to VM so far

Revised FAQ (per Planning Board) (*Addition E*)

BROW trees for Washingtonville (*Addition F*)

- VOM will seek property owners' permission to plant
- Accepted trees will be relocated from other sites on new planting list

Original site list includes two trees for small park @ Washington & Plaza, VOM property

TOM Residents call for tree protections on lots under one half acre (*Addition G*)

*New Business

Meeting with Planning Board about tree law 10/27/2021

- Tree Bank (*Addition H*)
- PB will prepare list of comments from meeting

Tree Nursery (Gail)

*Calendar Notes

Saturday, October 30, 1:00 pm, Tree Committee celebration (bring one dish)

- Harbor Island Park, Rushmore/Boston Post Road intersection
- Rain location 625 The Parkway, back patio under awning, enter through S. Barry Ave gate

Rain location for Saturday celebration

Tree Fund (Planning Board recommendation)

Attachment A – Revised September Minutes

September 28th 2021 MINUTES

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE TREE COMMITTEE HELD
REMOTELY ON September 28th 2021 AT 8:00PM

PRESENT:

Nora Lucas, trustee

Gail Koller, co-chair

Beverley Sherrid, co-chair

Wendy Zoland

Marlene Star

Sean Gormley

Jerry Barberio

Ellen Axelrod

Robert Ingenito joined at 9:15PM

1. Call to Order: 8:04PM

2. Approval of June Minutes – one change made for the spelling of Dan Karson

3. **Correspondence:**

130 Beach – A situation was reported in which a tree was braced beyond its first year after transplant. Continued bracing provides no benefit and actually inhibits the tree's development. Jerry took care of the bracing.

502 Orienta & 405 Fairway Green - regarding proposed tree ordinance – two supportive emails for much needed tree ordinance

325 Anita Lane - regarding overdevelopment risks, loss of trees, and request for stronger protections of trees. In anticipation of tree law passing, Jerry mentioned screening for an arborist and specific qualifications required

1040 Seven Oaks, 622 Stiles, 1346 Raleigh Road – all are inquiries regarding requests for the planting of trees by VOM

Walnut Street tree violation rectification – Trees was removed and plantings are needed. Jerry clarified plantings and locations that will benefit the community.

4. Old Business:

- a. Trees For Maintenance & Removals-All trees on list were removed or pruned.
- b. New Tree Ordinance – a public hearing was held on September 27th which included the proposed tree law. Village attorney detailed the law. The vote will occur on at the October 12th Board of Trustees meeting. Discussion was had regarding Tree Committee speakers, getting community support and getting people in the community to talk at the October 12 Board of Trustees meeting. The proposed code and concerns of 1010 Orienta clear cutting were discussed as well. Correspondence was received from community members indicating their support and concerns. Beverley will create a FAQ document for the new law.
- c. New Trees – trees donated by Mangone’s and Larchmont Nurseries last spring will be planted in the parks. These trees were considered a very generous gift. Residential locations suggested last spring will be added to the fall list of plantings currently in formation. HIP cherry trees to be inspected and a ribbon will be placed on those to be replaced. Wendy, Marlene and Beverley volunteered to inspect cherry trees. Mulch rings needed to be re-done due to Hurricane Ida.
- d. Tree Inventory – inventory in process. An app is used by volunteers to ID the trees. App is “Plant Finder.
- e. MetroNorth Along Bishop - Working to Restore Buffer for Residential Neighborhood in Mamaroneck. Government officials are working with Metro-North.
- f. Dog Park – Waiting for trees from county.
- g. Essential Workers Tribute This has been delayed until Spring because of Hurricane Ida. Work is in progress for trees and benches. Recommended trees are four white oaks and four sweet gums.

- h. Citizen Pruners – Police produce photo IDs by appointment. Plan to have a workshop in early November on pruning coinciding with CFTE Cleanup Day.

- i.

5. **New Business**

- a. Rye Neck High School - is looking for a social justice project that benefits trees.

6. **Calendar Notes**

- a. The “Nature of Oaks” book discussion on September 29th at 7PM at Mamaroneck Library event led by Beverley. Douglas Tallamy the author will speak on October 14th on Zoom.
- b. Guided tree walk scheduled for Sunday, October 17th at 1PM at The Parkway and Boston Post Road.

7. **Other Business**

- a. Discussion of trees in wet areas and long-term planning in light of Hurricane Ida and in anticipation of the new tree law. Gail shared a website regarding trees for wet areas. A plan is needed for long-term planning to help develop the canopy and creating a VOM nursery was suggested. Potential grant money can fund and volunteers can assist.
- b. Marlene mentioned how pesticides are impacting neighborhood trees. Jerry mentioned environmentally safe alternatives for killing weeds.
- c. PH testing suggested in order to increase tree survival rates.
- d. It was suggested by Jerry that a Tree Committee member should be on the VOM Planning Board.

8. Next regular meeting Thursday, October 28th, 2021 at 7:30PM

9. ADJOURNED 9:58 PM

Addition B -- 130 Beach Regarding Obligations of Tree Committee

stuart tiekert Mon, Oct 18, 7:41 AM (10 days ago)

to TreeCom, trees@vomny.org

Dear Chairs and Members of the Tree Committee,

I am writing to congratulate the Tree Committee on passing the new tree law which designed to protect trees when fully implemented.

Now that the difficult and time consuming task of writing the law has been completed I hope the committee to refocus its efforts on it's core duties and responsibilities under the new law.

The first item under 318-4, Duties and Responsibilities, of the new law is that the Tree Committee is that the committee "must" -

"Study, investigate, review, develop and/or update annually and administer a written plan present annually to the Board of Trustees, for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting removal or disposition of trees and shrubs in parks, along streets and in other public areas, with an estimate of the costs in hours to be worked by Village employees and the cost of nursery stock to be used;"

A thoughtful, annual, written plan for the care of the Village's urban forest will go a long way in effectively utilizing the precious taxpayer dollars earmarked for maintenance and reforestation. Budget season begins in a few months so I urge the committee to quickly engage with this responsibility to enable the submission of the written plan as early in the budgetary process as possible.

The last item under Duties and Responsibilities is that the committee "must" -

"Review any proposal by the Village Manager or the Village Manager's designee to remove a tree on public property"

Over the last two years no single entity has removed more mature, healthy, native trees than the Village Manager's office. I urge you to begin the discussion of how this responsibility will be met at your scheduled meeting this week.

My suggestion would be that at least a week before your scheduled meeting the Village Manager present to the committee for review a Purchase Order listing the size and location of the trees proposed for removal. Of course, emergency removals would be exempted from this process as long as the Manager's office documents the reason for the removal as required in section 318-8K of the new law.

I look forward to the committee's oversight of the implementation of the new law so it can accomplish it's intended goals.

Sincerely,

Stuart Tiekert

Addition to Agenda C -- 130 Beach Regarding The Daily Show and Trees

stuart tiekert Mon, Oct 25, 7:20 AM (3 days ago)

to TreeCom, trees@vomny.org

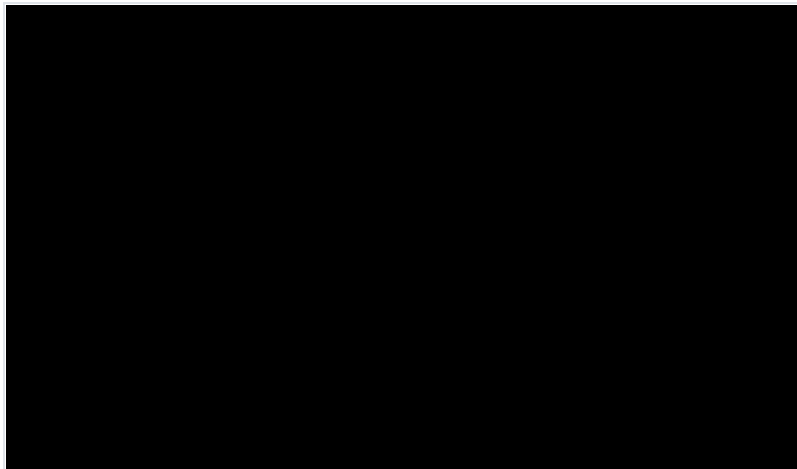
Dear Chairs and member of the Tree Committee,

I am writing because I hope that the Tree Committee, after the using arguments that trees reduce flooding to support the new tree law, will focus on planting trees in the areas devastated by Ida that have been neglected to date..

Sincerely,

Stuart Tiekert

[Dul-Sayin' - Why Low-Income Neighborhoods Have Fewer Trees | The Daily Show](#)



**Dul-Sayin' - Why Low-Income Neighborhoods
Have Fewer Trees | The Daily Show**



Addition E
Village of Mamaroneck Tree Law
Frequently Asked Questions

Does this law mean I can't take down any of my own trees without a permit?

No. Permits are needed only if you plan to remove a tree that is at least 8 inches diameter, measured 4 feet above the ground. If your tree is in or near a wetlands area, the diameter must be less than 3 inches at 4 feet.

But what about a tree that's dangerous, dead or diseased?

The Village Manager or other qualified Village employee can approve emergency removal without waiting for a permit.

How do I get a permit?

Permit applications are available online at <https://www.village.mamaroneck.ny.us/>. You may complete it online and submit with electronic payment of the fee, or you may print it out and send it with your payment to:

Village of Mamaroneck Clerk Treasurer
123 Mamaroneck Ave.
Mamaroneck, NY 10543

You may also pick up a printed form at the Clerk Treasurer's office at 123 Mamaroneck Ave.

How much is does a permit cost?

\$25

A tree just fell on my house. I can't wait for someone to come and say I can remove it.

A tree that's part of an ongoing emergency may be removed right away. Within three business days, you need to send in documentation of the emergency and a permit application. Photographs of the fallen tree and damage are fine.

There's a large tree growing right next to my garage. I'm afraid the tree will fall on it in a storm.

You will be given a permit to remove it if it's within 10 feet of a building.

I think my tree is dangerous but the Village disagrees. What can I do?

You may hire a certified arborist from a list on the Village website to get an outside opinion. You'll be responsible for paying for the arborist.

I want to do some construction that involves removing some trees. Do I need Planning Board approval for my site plan?

The Building Department will let you know when you apply for building and tree permits whether the Planning Board needs to approve your plans.

The Planning Board approved taking out some trees as part of my site plan. Do I still need a separate permit?

No.

I hear I have to plant more trees when I take out a protected one. I don't have space for a lot more trees.

If your property is less than 14,500 square feet, roughly a third of an acre, you only need to replant one tree. Larger properties may need to plant more trees, depending on the size of the tree that came out. The full replacement table is in the Village code at *318-8 G (1) (a)*.

Does it matter what kind of tree I plant as a replacement?

The new tree must be a non-invasive species that will mature to a similar height and size as the one you took out. There's a list of species recommended by the Village on our website at <https://www.village.mamaroneck.ny.us/>, but you don't have to limit yourself to this list.

Do I have to put the new tree in the same spot where the old one was growing?

No.

One of my trees was blown over in a storm. Do I need to plant a new one?

No.

I damaged a tree pretty badly doing some construction. Do I have to replace it?

Yes.

I like open space and I want to take out three or four large trees. Is that okay?

You may receive permits to remove up to three protected trees within 36 months. If it's a wetlands area, the limit is two protected trees within 24 months. The replanting requirements still apply, however.

I planted a replacement tree last year but it died. Now what?

Replacement trees that don't survive for two calendar years need to be replaced again.

The Village says branches from my tree are blocking the sidewalk space. Can they make me prune it?

Yes.

What happens if I don't do the pruning?

When the Village sent the notice about pruning, it also said that the Village may enter your property to do the pruning if you don't comply. You will be billed for this work.

What's the fine if I just go ahead and take out a tree without a permit?

The fine for removing one or two protected trees is \$1,050 to \$5,000. It's \$1,500 to \$7,500 for each additional tree that you take out. Also, your building, demolition, and excavation permits will be suspended and you won't receive a Certificate of Occupancy until the violation has been resolved.

Why aren't the fines higher for clear cutting?

The Village was looking for a balance between discouraging clear cutting and being unduly harsh to homeowners. But that \$1,500 to \$7,500 for each additional tree adds up.

Addition F -- Washingtonville BROW Suggestions

24-Oct-21

<u>#</u>	<u>Street</u>	<u>Small</u>	<u>Tall</u>	<u>Comment</u>
118	Waverly		1	
118	Waverly		1	
164	Waverly	1		dogwood or crabapple
164	Waverly	1		dogwood or crabapple
258	Waverly		1	
254	Center on Plaza		1	set back from wires
254	Center		1	set back from wires
254	Center		1	set back from wires
254	Center		1	set back from wires
254	Center		1	set back from wires
254	Center		1	set back from wires
120	Madison		1	between sidewalk & lot
120	Madison		1	between sidewalk & lot
120	Madison		1	between sidewalk & lot
35	Madison		1	
11	Madison		1	
	Total	2	14	



<https://larchmontloop.com/neighbors-say-tree-cutting-in-mamaroneck-town-needs-controls/>

Neighbors Say Tree Cutting in Mamaroneck Town Needs Controls

By [Polly Kreisman](#)

October 27, 2021

A neighborhood effort to stop the Town of Mamaroneck from cutting down large, mature and shady trees without a review process, could lead to changes in what's known as the Town Tree Code.

According to Town of Mamaroneck resident Judith Herbst, last week “without neighbor notification...trees are being removed and taken down from our neighborhood, reducing the canopy.” Trees are usually removed for home development and renovations, or for safety when a tree may fall from storms or decay.

Herbst and others say that 16 mature trees have been cut down and removed over the last few months within a 1-mile radius: the Larchmont Metro-North train station to North Chatsworth, Rockingstone, and Murray Avenues.

The current code applies to homes on a half-acre or more. The majority of the homes in many areas in the Town sit on less than half an acre. The group wants a review process for all residential properties that would notify neighbors within 150 yds., issue a report by an independent arborist, design a replacement plan, and more.

“Moving forward with updating the current tree code is critical and in light of what I personally am seeing on a more recurring basis of trees being taken down, I think we need to move quickly,” Herbst says.

Town of Mamaroneck Supervisor Nancy Seligson writes. “the Town staff is currently reviewing suggestions to amend the Town tree code made by the Sustainability Collaborative. We hope to have recommendations from them in November and begin to work on drafting amendments.”

Residents say tree cut down, top, filled the space above

Addition H
Tree Bank Recommendation

From: Brittanie O'Neill <boneill@vomny.org>
Sent: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 7:50 PM
To: Kathleen Savolt <Ksavolt@verizon.net>
Subject: Tree preservation fund

Hi,

I wanted to share with you what we did in Scarsdale when I worked on the tree law. They created a tree preservation fund under their tree law. The Village Engineer issued tree permits but for us it would be Frank but it was his determination that they did not have the room to replant. He would go out to the property (if the property owner felt they could not plant replacements) and look at the property and agree or disagree. If he agreed they could not replant they would donate to the tree fund. One tree was \$250 but over a certain amount they lowered the price (as the replanting amounts increased.)

Even with the replanting they still took a tree bond to ensure they replanted and returned it (roughly 6 months) after the tree was planted. They wanted to ensure the tree was healthy and thriving before returning the bond.

Just wanted to share!

Best,

Brittanie O'Neill
Land Use Board Secretary