

12/17/2020

**Village of Mamaroneck Tree Committee  
17 December 2020 Agenda**

\*Welcome to new committee member Ellen Axelrod

\*Approval of the November Minutes

\*Comments from Residents (*Please limit comments to 3 minutes*)

\*Correspondence

- 422 Hinman, 606 Orienta, 626 Brook (telephone), 820 Woodbine – residents expecting trees making sure they will be planted this fall (*attach 1a, b, c*)
- 303 Jefferson regarding brush along riverbed (*attach 2*)
- 130 Beach – comments regarding tree inventories (*attach 3*)
- 130 Beach – comments regarding the Tree Committee (*attach 4*)
- 130 Beach – comments, various (*attach 5*)
- 130 Beach – comments regarding purchase of trees (*attach 6*)
- 130 Beach – comments regarding responsibilities of Tree Committee (*attach 7*)
- 130 Beach – comments, various (*attach 7a*)

\*Old Business

305 Fourth St – November business, Resident requested removal of large, healthy tree and replacement with small, flowering tree. Did anyone inspect or respond? (*attach 8*)

Tree Maintenance -- Please provide street numbers when reporting tree-related issues

- 850 Palmer – large limb in ROW across the street
- 404 & 407 Creek – pruning request for broken and poorly pruned limbs

Trees for Evaluation and/or Removal

- 322 South Barry – Resident request removal of dead street tree (*attach 9*)

Violations

- 717 The Parkway tree topped by residents; violation issued?
- 540 W. Boston Post Road – trees topped; violation issued? (*attach 10*)

Fall Planting

- Barbato to supply and plant 66 of trees on list
- Supplier and date for remaining 20 trees
- Rootballs too large for some planting strips?

Westchester County may plant new trees on County property

- Water Treatment Plant, southwest side and driveway – VOM awaiting map of underground architecture; county has not responded because of covid response priorities

MetroNorth Trees Removed along Bishop and Hoyt

Trustee Tafur regarding planting trees (*attach 11*)

Correspondence with Committee for the Environment (*attach 12*)

Guidelines for Proposing Significant Trees

Tree inventory updates

Larchmont Nursery donation

Other Questions

Pruning of larger elms

Planning Board

Draft guidelines to be presented annually

Sidewalk repairs using structural soil

Tree well planting guidelines

Distances from stop signs & corners

Ongoing maintenance of trees, particularly street trees

Recommend species suited to locations

\*New Business

Village Manager providing arbor care training to Parks staff

Trimmer damage

Transplanting

Pruning

Con Edison – Request to bury power lines

Con Ed pruning is brutal to trees, which are essential for flood and other

Environmental controls

Regulated by NYS Commission

Burying lines currently above ground may be an NYS cost

Contact neighborhood associations

Ask County for lobbying support

Need analysis of 30-year projected costs of power losses

Need actual costs to Con Ed of last 10 years power losses plus annual pruning expenses, estimates of cost to residents when so many people are working online now.

Spring Tree Walk

\*Calendar Notes

Next regular meeting *January 16, 2021, 7:30 p.m.*



## Robert Ingenito

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**From:** C Stone <castone7@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 4, 2020 5:39 PM  
**To:** Beverly Sherrid  
**Subject:** Re: Trees please

Thank you so much for the info!

On Fri, Dec 4, 2020 at 3:09 PM Beverley Sherrid <[bsherrid@optonline.net](mailto:bsherrid@optonline.net)> wrote:

We talked about the tree a few months ago. You're scheduled to get a new variety of crabapple called "Sugartyme" (sorry about that cute spelling, I didn't name it). It's resistant to many of the apple/crabapple pathogens, most notably cedar apple rust, which plagues my own trees every year. It also tolerates heat, drought, and air pollution although air pollution shouldn't be a problem on your street.

You can see pictures of it here [https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-1-d&sxsrf=ALeKk01SWbkLTP3s3bJ0Qtz4LZHuSKSTfQ%3A1607111153718&ei=8ZHKX5ugK-Kj5NoPuNyx8AY&q=malus+%27Sutzyam%22sugar+tyme+images&oq=malus+%27Sutzyam%22sugar+tyme+images&gs\\_lcp=CgZwc3ktYWIQAzIFCAAQzQlyBQgAEM0CMgUIABDNajIFCAAQzQlyBQgAEM0COgclABBHELADogclIxCwAhAnOgkIABDJAxAWEB46BggAEBYQHjoHCCEQChCgAToHCCEQChCrAIDUSVjaWmChcGgBcAF4AIABjQGIAdcFkgEDMy40mAEAoAEBqgEHZ3dzLXdpegBCMABAQ&sclient=psy-ab&ved=0ahUKewjb3LnLi7XtAhXIEVkfFHTuDG4Q4dUDCAw&uact=5](https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-1-d&sxsrf=ALeKk01SWbkLTP3s3bJ0Qtz4LZHuSKSTfQ%3A1607111153718&ei=8ZHKX5ugK-Kj5NoPuNyx8AY&q=malus+%27Sutzyam%22sugar+tyme+images&oq=malus+%27Sutzyam%22sugar+tyme+images&gs_lcp=CgZwc3ktYWIQAzIFCAAQzQlyBQgAEM0CMgUIABDNajIFCAAQzQlyBQgAEM0COgclABBHELADogclIxCwAhAnOgkIABDJAxAWEB46BggAEBYQHjoHCCEQChCgAToHCCEQChCrAIDUSVjaWmChcGgBcAF4AIABjQGIAdcFkgEDMy40mAEAoAEBqgEHZ3dzLXdpegBCMABAQ&sclient=psy-ab&ved=0ahUKewjb3LnLi7XtAhXIEVkfFHTuDG4Q4dUDCAw&uact=5)

It looks as if there is a reddish version but we have only ever had white, which is it's normal color.

By the way, it's kind of awkward looking for the first year or two and I've had complaints, but then it becomes lovely.

Beverley

On Dec 4, 2020, at 12:11 PM, Liz Stone <[castone7@gmail.com](mailto:castone7@gmail.com)> wrote:

Thank you Beverley – do I have any choice of tree? Prefer NOT red – any other choices?

Thank you!  
Liz Stone

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**From:** Beverley Sherrid [<mailto:bsherrid@optonline.net>]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 4, 2020 11:47 AM  
**To:** Liz Stone  
**Subject:** Re: Trees please

Dear Liz,  
Actually it's coming soon although I don't have the date. The utilities have been marked out which means it's imminent.  
It's actually a good time to plant — the trees are dormant, the ground is not frozen. It's coming, it's coming.  
Beverley

On Dec 4, 2020, at 9:57 AM, Liz Stone <[castone7@gmail.com](mailto:castone7@gmail.com)> wrote:

Dear Beverley:

Still no tree, although we did get a letter telling us we were getting a tree. Perhaps it is coming in spring? It is really too late to plant now.

Thank you!  
Liz Stone  
422 Hinman Place

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**From:** Beverley Sherrid [<mailto:bsherrid@optonline.net>]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 21, 2020 8:26 AM  
**To:** C Stone  
**Subject:** Re: Trees please

Good morning Liz,

If you were away, I hope you managed to avoid the storm and ensuing blackout.

At last night's Tree Committee meeting the Village Manager said he plans to send letters to all residents on our planting list ahead of time to ask whether they would like to have a street tree this year, so you don't need to worry about it.

I mistyped. You told me previously that you are 422, which is the side with overhead wires, so we need to plant trees that are small at maturity. We haven't settled on the species for this year yet, but most likely it will be either a redbud, crabapple (that doesn't drop its fruit), or a thornless hawthorne.

Because our budget is so limited this year, most likely we won't be able to plant on Brook until next year. I agree with you, that street needs trees too.

Stay safe. Best wishes.  
Beverley

On Aug 20, 2020, at 10:30 PM, C Stone <[castone7@gmail.com](mailto:castone7@gmail.com)> wrote:

Dear Beverley:

I really don't know - we have been away and not discussed hurricane damage w neighbors although I know one neighbor anyway DID want a tree a while ago. If you explain (flyer perhaps?) all the many benefits (esp. cost savings!) (and health) (and house value) etc. it may tip the scales if needed.

Our house is 422 not 423 by the way. What type flowering tree?

Looking forward to more trees in this neighborhood and hope Brook also gets more trees.

Thanks for all you do.

Liz

On Wed, Aug 19, 2020 at 10:55 AM Beverley Sherrid <[bsherrid@optonline.net](mailto:bsherrid@optonline.net)> wrote:

Hi Liz,

I have a tree question for you. Currently we have three tall trees scheduled for planting on Hinman on the side of the street across from your house (the side without the wires), and a small (25' at maturity), flowering one in front of your house at 423.

My question is this: Some people have become tree averse to trees because of the storm damage earlier this month. Do you think that is true of your neighbors on Hinman? I am pretty sure this apprehension will fade and everyone will go back to their traditional pro- or anti-tree opinions, but I am concerned about having the trees rejected this season.

Thanks for your insights.

Beverley Sherrid

On Jul 20, 2020, at 7:59 AM, Liz Stone <[castone7@gmail.com](mailto:castone7@gmail.com)> wrote:

Greetings Beverley:

Tree requests:

- 1 Brook Street. A dead tree was removed. Also the block could use (there is space ) more trees on the non-wire side.
- 2 Hinman Place – we had a discussion on this a year or so ago. You were going to look into planting on the non-wire side on people's property. As I understand it, the Village owns 6 (or 8?) ft anyway – so don't know why trees cannot be planted there. I also spoke to our neighbor (possibly 419 Hinman– blue house) who would like a tree, she said.
- 3 Would love a shade tree in front of our house: 422 Hinman but perhaps that is not possible. (sidewalk, wires)

Thank you!

Liz. Stone

914-698-5982

PS: How is Eloise doing ? She went to school with Jake (Jacob) Stone – now an engineer with his own business advising property managers/contractors re HVAC! (literally left his salaried job the DAY of the shutdown – but is amazingly very busy in his new venture. We don't actually want him living in our basement ☺)

## Robert Ingenito

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**From:** Meg Deshpande <meg@pillarandpen.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 8, 2020 7:45 PM  
**To:** Beverly Sherrid  
**Subject:** Re: 606 Orienta Avenue

Perfect thanks!

Meg Deshpande  
pillarandpen.com

On Dec 8, 2020, at 5:56 PM, Beverley Sherrid <bsherrid@optonline.net> wrote:

Yes, they are coming. Jerry hopes to do it in the next week if possible. The nursery doing the job has just finished marking out the underground utilities throughout the village, which is done a few days before they plant.

I know it seems late but it's actually a good time for planting. The trees are dormant but the ground is not frozen.

On Dec 8, 2020, at 5:51 PM, Meg Deshpande <[meg@pillarandpen.com](mailto:meg@pillarandpen.com)> wrote:

Hi Beverly

I have been trying to track down the trees, but to no avail. Last we spoke they were to be planted at latest early December. Do you have any information on the schedule?

Thanks

Meg Deshpande  
[pillarandpen.com](http://pillarandpen.com)

On Oct 3, 2020, at 7:44 PM, Beverley Sherrid <[bsherrid@optonline.net](mailto:bsherrid@optonline.net)> wrote:

Perfect! See you at 1.

On Oct 3, 2020, at 7:15 PM, Meg Deshpande  
<[meg@pillarandpen.com](mailto:meg@pillarandpen.com)> wrote:

Yes we can meet tomorrow afternoon. What about 1?

Meg Deshpande

[pillarandpen.com](http://pillarandpen.com)

On Oct 3, 2020, at 6:32 PM, Beverley  
Sherrid <[bsherrid@optonline.net](mailto:bsherrid@optonline.net)>  
wrote:

## Attachment 1-c – 820 Woodbine Correspondence

### Re: Tree planting

**Jerry Barberio** Tue, Dec 8, 2:41 PM (5 days ago)

to John, Courtney, TreeCom

Hi Mr. Hull,

The tree planting contractor finalized the utility mark out locations last week. I had a call with them on Friday. I expect a date in the next week or so. It may seem late, but trees are dormant now so its the best time to plant. I will be supervising the planting myself.

Thanks. Hopefully I will see you early next week. JB

**Jerry Barberio**  
*Village Manager*

*Village of Mamaroneck  
123 Mamaroneck Avenue  
Mamaroneck, NY 10543*

*Phone 914-777-7706  
Fax 914-777-7760  
E-mail [jbarberio@vomny.org](mailto:jbarberio@vomny.org)*

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**From:** John Hull <[retorheft@gmail.com](mailto:retorheft@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 8, 2020 2:27 PM  
**To:** Jerry Barberio <[jbarberio@vomny.org](mailto:jbarberio@vomny.org)>  
**Subject:** Tree planting

Hi,  
I received a letter indicating a scheduled tree planting outside my house and I see that the street has been marked accordingly with the location. It's getting quite late in the year for planting. Just want to confirm that this has not been overlooked.

Thanks.

John Hull,  
820 Woodbine Ave.

Attachment \_\_\_\_ -- 303 Jefferson

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Gina von Eiff** <[gvoneiff@gmail.com](mailto:gvoneiff@gmail.com)>  
Date: Fri, Mar 27, 2020, 11:57 AM  
Subject: 4 hours now  
To: Mayor and Board <[MayorandBoard@vomny.org](mailto:MayorandBoard@vomny.org)>

Can someone tell me why the workers have spent four hours removing the growth here that helps keep the soil from getting into the river and the ducks nest in

**Gail Koller** Dec 5, 2020, 1:22 PM (7 days ago)

to Jerry, TreeCom

Hi Jerry,

I'm going through a backlog of emails and this one was never resolved. Gina von Eiff emailed about "...the riverbank at the jefferson Avenue parking lot..." and I think wanted to know if the Village has plans to replant trees to help prevent soil erosion. Perhaps this was resolved? Can you please let me know, Jerry? Thanks!

Best,  
Gail

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Gina von Eiff** <[gvoneiff@gmail.com](mailto:gvoneiff@gmail.com)>  
Date: Wed, Jun 24, 2020 at 4:56 PM  
Subject: Re: FW: 4 hours now  
To: Gail Koller <[gail.koller18@gmail.com](mailto:gail.koller18@gmail.com)>

This is the riverbank at the jefferson Avenue parking lot which has regrown

**Jerry Barberio** Dec 5, 2020, 1:51 PM (7 days ago)

to Gail, TreeCom

Resolved. It has grown back stronger and more dense than before.

Thank you,

Jerry Barberio  
Village Manager  
Village of Mamaroneck

**Gail Koller** Dec 5, 2020, 2:02 PM (7 days ago)

to **Gina**, TreeCom

Dear Ms von Eiff,

I hope this email finds you well and safe. My apologies for the delay in getting back to you. To say the last few months have been hectic and incredibly stressful would be an understatement.

Regarding your expressed concern about the riverbank at the Jefferson Avenue parking lot, I have been informed by Jerry Barbiero, Village Manager, that the riverbank has grown back and is stronger and more dense than before.

Sincerely,  
Gail Koller

## Attachment 3 –Comments regarding tree inventories

### Fw: Crowd sourcing tree inventories

**stuart tiekert** Tue, Nov 10, 6:46 PM

to TreeCom, trees@vomny.org

Dear Members of the Tree Committee,

As I have advocated before and continue to believe, the single most important thing the Tree Committee could for future of the Village's urban forest is to do a comprehensive inventory.

Below is an article about open sourced software to do crowd sourced tree inventories and a link to the software.

I believe this could be an excellent way to engage with the public about trees, good student service work and may be especially attractive the long dark winter we are facing.

I believe this is a very doable project and would be good for the community.

Sincerely,

Stuart Tiekert

[How OpenTreeMap Crowdsourced Inventory Reveals the Benefits of Urban Forests | Smart Cities Dive](#)

**How OpenTreeMap Crowdsourced Inventory Reveals the Benefits of Urban For...**

Smart Cities

[OpenTreeMap — Create greener communities and explore our urban forests, together](#)



**OpenTreeMap — Create greener communities and explore our urban forests, ...**

Create greener communities and explore our urban forests, together.

## Attachment 4 – Comments regarding the Tree Committee

### TC Comments

**stuart tiekert** Thu, Nov 12, 8:42 AM

to TreeCom

Dear Members of the Tree Committee,

I am completing my comments and questions that I wanted to present Tuesday night.

I want to thank Beverly for correcting the record on how many trees were tested for verticillium.

**Attachment 34** - Moving four trees planted last year

- There is no 234 South Barry address according to Westchester County Land Records.
- Why is the TC recommending precious tree planting dollars be spent moving any of these trees?

**Attachment 32** Recommended Tree Planting List -

The list carries a note that Trident Maples are "Highly susceptible to verticillium, do not plant in areas that have been badly affected such as shore Acres."

- Trident Maples are NOT susceptible to verticillium, other Maple species are but NOT Tridents
- What is the statement that the Shore Acres area is badly affected by verticillium based on? Is there any evidence to support this? Based on the recent tests on Maple species prone to verticillium in Shore Acres it appears this is not the case. If there is nothing to support this note I believe it should be removed.

**Significant Tree List** - The draft of the Tree Law states that a significant tree is a "tree or shrub on public property".

- If that is the case, while the 490 Bleeker, 506 South Barry and the Shore Acres Club trees, which are on private property, may be considered Significant Trees now they will not be if the law is adopted.

- What is the statement that the 490 Bleeker tree is 360 years old based ? Has the tree been measured and evaluated to come to this conclusion?

**Trees for Evaluation and/or Removal** -Why does the TC fill up its agenda with "Trees for Evaluation and/or Removal?"

- The Village Manager has repeatedly demonstrated with the Guion Drive tree and the HIP tree massacre that the Village will take down trees without any evaluation or consultation from the TC.
- As I have previously informed the TC, the first issue the TC took up when it was reconstituted in 2007 was "How are trees greenlighted for removal." Thirteen years later there has been no answer to the question or any protocols established to protect from indiscriminate removal.

**Violations** - In addition to the Dunkin donut trees on your agenda, there are a number of other violations that the Village has never done anything about except let the property owners repeat the violation.

- Will the Village ever move to meaningfully enforce existing code regarding damaging Village Trees?
- If not, what is the point of passing a new law with even stricter measures?
- Why dis there any expectation the new will be any more meaningfully enforced?

**Pruning Larger Elms** - Why would the Village prune these elms when they ignore the 100+ elms planted in the last ten years that really need pruning? .

**Planting Guidelines** - Believe it or not the Village adopted Planting Guidelines for new trees ten years ago but they have never been followed. Why they aren't, may be a question the TC wants look into. Mulch rings are expensive and not very effective. The adopted planting guidelines called a three inch layer of mulch applied at the base of the tree. This could easily made part of the RFP for tree planting but never has been.

**Structural Soil** - Again, this idea makes no sense. Happy to explain if given time at a meeting or individual members want an explanation.

**Test for vermicillium(sic)** - Why were these test done?

- The tree variety at 625 South Barry , a Silver Maple, has been described by a co-chair as a "junk tree" and by the Village Manager as "massive precarious giants" that concern him. The Silver Maple on Guion Drive was a healthy tree in the prime of its life and was summarily removed because a single small branch broke once. The tree

at 625 South Barry is in horrible condition, it has been topped and most of the trunk and leaders show deep pockets of decay. Compared to the Guion Drive tree and the HIP trees, it is a clear and present danger.

- Why were any funds, except to remove it, spent on this tree?
- There are tough economic times coming for municipalities. Going forward the I hope the TC will advise the Village that precious tree funds should be spent more thoughtfully.

**Village Tree Species Selection - I hope the TC will avoid making tree planting decision based on anecdotal and casual observations.**

**Diversity** - I have been familiar with the Parkway trees since the mid eighties when the Village contacted my tree company to consult on a number of removals. There was no tree monoculture at the time and I know of no pathogen since then that has taken out one type of tree. If the "horrible pathogen" being claimed as endemic in Shore Acres is verticillium I don't know what this is based on since two Maples recently tested for it came back negative.

**Native** - There are a number of Black Tupelos that have done fine in the Village. Five were purchased and planted in the spring of 2010. There is one at the northeast corner of Alda and The Parkway (planted in violation 318-10 of Village code) and one on Melbourne Avenue that I know of that have done fine without compost tea and minerals. I have a weeping variety in my yard which does fine. In 2008, Black Tupelos Tree of the Year by the Society of Municipal Arborists, they are on NYC's approved tree list and if they can make it there, they can make it anywhere! The preferred cultivar is "Forum".

**Experience** - If the the TC wants to make judgements about trees based on "experience" it should be based on more than anecdotal observations, like an inventory of the approximately 1500+ trees planted since 2009. It also has to be noted that until the last couple of years there was no meaningful watering of trees and planting practices were inconsistent at best. For instance, in the fall to 2014 the Village purchased 187 trees, 148 of them were stored in the West Basin parking lot for over a month without irrigation until the root balls turned into cement. Many of the trees were likely dead when planted as evidenced by them being ripped out and replaced the following year. I believe if an inventory was done of the trees planted in 2014, fully a third to half of them have not survived. To judge tree species based on attrition rates without considering the conditions they were planted under is not valid.

**Microclimates** - Microclimates should not affect any of the trees on the Village's Recommended Tree List. Microclimates should be considered when planting marginal hardy tree varieties like the Crape Myrtles at the entrance to Harbor Island Park. Sadly, no consideration was made when those trees were planted by the Harbor Island Conservancy over the objections of the TC. The trees have repeatedly been cold damaged with one reduced to a suckering shrub like form.

The Village's Recommended Tree List was drawn up by the Tree Committee and approved by the Board of Trustees. If there are changes to it they should be made under the same process and not unilaterally.

Sincerely,

Stuart Tiekert

## Attachment 5 -- Comments

### 490 Bleeker Oak

Inbox



**stuart tiekert** Wed, Nov 11, 6:23 AM

to victor, TreeCom, trees@vomny.org

Dear Trustee Tafur,

The Tree Committee is claiming that the oak in your building's back yard is "360 years old" without any evidence.

A measurement of the diameter of the tree at four and half feet of the ground would go a long way to establishing an approximate age of the tree.

I hope you will either measure the tree yourself or work with members of the Tree Committee to establish the size of the tree.

Sincerely,

Stuart Tiekert

VictorTafur Thu, Nov 12, 8:21 AM

Thanks for the note. I'll follow up with a trustee Lucas, as liaison, or VM (cc'd here). On Nov 11, 2020, at 6:23 AM, stuart tiekert <tiekerts@yahoo.com> wrote:

**stuart tiekert** Thu, Nov 12, 8:36 AM

to **TreeCom**, Nora, Jerry, Victor

Dear Trustee Tafur,

Great!

Thank you for following up.

A measurement of the diameter of the dripline would also be beneficial to determining age.

It would be most appreciated if someone could let me know what the measurements are.

Sincerely,

Stuart Tiekert

## Attachment 6

### **Fw: Public Records Notification for Request #4977**

**stuart tiekert** Fri, Dec 11, 8:16 AM (1 day ago)

to TreeCom, trees@vomny.org

Dear Chairs and members of the Tree Committee,

I hope this finds everyone well and staying safe.

I am writing with a couple of comments prior to your meeting next week. I hope an agenda will be posted in a timely manner.

Below, please see the Clerk-Treasurer's response that the Village will be using last year's contract and vendor to supply and plant trees this fall. I don't know what that means for this year's planting but please consider that:

- The RFP requested 106 trees but as I understand it about 30 were rejected because of quality. In my opinion, the Redbuds, which had all been sheared, plus a number of other trees could have been rejected based on quality also.
- This years planting calls for a number of October Glory Maples, they are not on the bid, perhaps they can be substituted.
- The contract states "The bidder shall install ALL trees designated for the fall planting by November 30.". I don't know if they will, but I believe if the contractor has had second thoughts about this work after their experience last year, they could claim the contract has expired.
- The contractor was permitted to ignore many of the planting requirements listed in the contract.

From my perspective, as someone who has been involved in the landscape and tree business most of my life, the RFP could be much improved to produce better outcomes.

Below is an excellent image showing how damaging the topping of trees is. The rot below the topping cut is deep and obvious, creating a dangerous condition. This is not a public tree.

Below that is, if you haven't seen it, a funny picture that has been circulating on social media a perhaps the sexiest tree ever.

Sincerely,  
Stuart Tiekert



## Attachment 7 -- 130 Beach comments regarding the responsibilities of the Tree Committee

**stuart tiekert** Nov 16, 2020, 9:02 AM

to **TreeCom**, me

Dear Ms. Sherrid,

Thank you for getting back to me

I did not say you said the TC is advisory to the Village Manager. I said that the TC's web page says that and it's incorrect. I believe it should be removed so the page is accurate. Also, the TC is arguably advisory to the Rec Committee and that is not on the webpage, I believe it should be added for accuracy.

If members have not read Chapter 318, Trees, of Village Code that governs the TC's work recently, here is a link <https://ecode360.com/7712214>.

I believe the TC should strive to maintain it's independence. The Village Manager has a lot of other responsibilities and relationships in the Village he has to consider when taking making decisions.

The TC's only responsibility is trees and it's purpose under code is the " proper planting of new trees and the health and maintenance of existing trees".

When the Village spends 15k to remove 18 healthy, native trees and the TC can't get any explanation from the Village Manager about how it happened except to say they were all unhealthy when they weren't, there is a problem. When I first wrote the TC about this your reaction was "That is a violation — destruction of public property. Should be subject to fines." another member reacted "That is exactly what we are against."

The year old TD Green Spaces Grant application said "The Department of Public Works General Foreman, Tony Iacovelli, and the Village Manager, Mr. Barberio, are currently developing a maintenance schedule for new street trees planted within the previous five years." Its been a year, any progress on that?

My point is, talking about things doesn't mean they get done and a lots gets said about trees in the Village. The current Village Manager is certainly more knowledgeable about trees but trees are a very small part of his portfolio.

If how Village trees are cared for is going to change, that change will come from the TC, not the Manager's office.

Under Village Code, the TC has only one mandatory responsibility -

It **shall be the responsibility** of the Tree Committee to study, investigate, develop and/or update annually and administer a written plan 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. **Such plan shall be presented annually to the Village Board.**

As far as I know, the TC has never met this responsibility, I hope it will this budget season.

Hard times are coming for municipalities with the economic fallout from the pandemic. It will be even more important to spend taxpayer dollars wisely and responsibly.

The Village should no longer let 10% of the trees purchased to languish for two years without being planted.

The Village should no longer spend 20k a year removing healthy, native trees because residents want better views or are irrationally fearful.

I hope you see that the TC turns its focus to preserving trees and precious tax dollars earmarked for their care going forward.

Sincerely,

Stuart Tiekert

## **Attachment 7a -- Comments from 130 Beach Resident**

**stuart tiekert** Wed, Dec 16, 3:19 PM (18 hours ago)

to TreeCom, trees@vomny.org

Dear Chairs and members of the Tree Committee,

I am writing to comment on the agenda for your meeting Thursday night and general tree issues.

Beginning at the top:

Approval of November Minutes -

**There are no minutes on the agenda for review and approval as required by Open Meetings Law.**

Comments from Residents -

**Its my opinion, especially for residents who are concerned about the Village Tree programs, a three minute limitation on comments is counterproductive to the TC work.**

Correspondence -

**I hope there will be some discussion of the substantive comments made in writing about the Village's tree programs**

Tree Maintenance - 404 and 407 Creek

**There are a hundred other trees in the Village that need to be pruned more than the trees on Creek, especially considering that the newly planted tree on adjacent to 404 on the Parkway has been recently topped.**

Trees for Evaluation and/or Removal - 322 South Barry Avenue

**First, why would the Village Manager send this complaint to the TC. Clearly, with the trees on Guion Drive and HIP, when other residents want trees taken down, they just get taken down.**

Second, based on GIS maps there are no trees on Village property adjacent to 322 S. Barry and the tree on their neighbor's property is not the Village's problem. The Manager's office should have been able to tell them that.

#### Violations

According to GIS mapping there is no 540 W. Post Road. You probably mean 532 W. Post Road, the address about which I sent the TC a complaint about fourteen months ago. Since then I have sent complaints about another half dozen topped trees in the Village.

You can keep endlessly keep asking whether violations have been issued or you can start asking "why" there is never any consequence to residents topping, even when they do it year after year, like the trees on Barry Avenue.

#### Fall Planting

I wrote the TC about the state of the Fall Planting. It is December, technically the contract expired at the end of November and we are about to have a foot of snow. The Village Manager is free to tell you whatever he wants but I would suggest you ask him for evidence that last year's vendor is going to honor last years contract and when that may happen.

Two trees were planted on Halstead just to the west of Florence. I believe they are the two Redbuds moved from Guion Drive for some unexplained reason. Neither of these locations appear on the Fall 2020 tree planting schedule that I received from the Village.

Both trees are planted in violation of Village tree planting guidelines and Chapter 318 of Village Code. The tree closest to Fourth St. violates the setback distance from street corners, the distance between the two trees violates the separation guidelines approved by the BOT.

Again, it makes no sense to pass laws and guidelines if they are just going to be ignored.

#### Tree Inventory Updates

Let me guess, there are none.

I believe it is a fantasy to think that anywhere in the foreseeable future that the Village will appropriate funds for a tree inventory. I have sent you information about crowd-sourcing tree inventories. I hope the TC will discuss it at some point.

#### Pruning Larger Elms

It is not the half dozen mature elms that need pruning, it is the 100+ newly planted elms that need pruning desperately.

Please stop discussing structural soil for sidewalk repairs, it makes no sense.

The Village already has regulations for the distances from corners and by extension stop signs. Please stop discussing and start following them when tree planting locations are selected, ie Halstead Avenue above.

TC members have no doubt gotten the notice that the Village, after January 1, will not be able to provide staff support for meetings other than land use boards. If you don't know, the BOT had secret discussions at Monday's work session about a hiring freeze and furloughs of existing employees. Extremely challenging economic are hurtling toward every local community. All budgets should be and likely will be cut significantly, including funds for maintaining and planting trees.

According to Village Code, the TC has only one mandated responsibility - "It shall be the responsibility of the Tree Committee to study, investigate, develop and/or update annually and administer a written plan 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. Such plan shall be presented annually to the Village Board."

As far as I know the TC has never performed this required task. Budget season will begin within a couple of months. I hope the TC will consider presenting your recommendations for a budget to the Board of Trustees early in the process.

Sincerely,

Stuart Tiekert

## Attachment 8

**From:** [cmsmailer@civicplus.com](mailto:cmsmailer@civicplus.com) <[cmsmailer@civicplus.com](mailto:cmsmailer@civicplus.com)> on behalf of Contact form at Mamaroneck NY <[cmsmailer@civicplus.com](mailto:cmsmailer@civicplus.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 9, 2020 12:42 AM  
**To:** Nora Lucas <[nlucas@vomny.org](mailto:nlucas@vomny.org)>  
**Subject:** [Mamaroneck NY] Request for Tree Removal (Sent by Phillip Chun, [pschun17@yahoo.com](mailto:pschun17@yahoo.com))

Hello nlucas,

Phillip Chun ([pschun17@yahoo.com](mailto:pschun17@yahoo.com)) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.village.mamaroneck.ny.us/user/75/contact>) at Mamaroneck NY. If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.village.mamaroneck.ny.us/user/75/edit>.

Message:

Hi,

My address is 305 4th Street (and corner of Rose Lane). There is a very large and old tree on our property along Rose Ln that sits between the sidewalk and the street. My family as well as the other neighbors are concerned about this tree following over in a bad storm such as we had in the past couple of years. I am especially concerned because if this tree were to fall over onto my home, it would cause catastrophic damage and I have 2 small children (4 years old and 7 months old).

The tree is also lifting up the sidewalk which the town has tried repairing by just layering some cement as to prevent tripping. But you can see the cement is already starting to deteriorate. I wouldn't mind a smaller tree replacing this large one.

I am just concerned that this large one will fall over one day and damage my home and possibly severely injure my family. I have provided some pictures as well.

I would greatly appreciate the town seriously considering removing this tree. Or even cutting it to half its height. If anyone would like to discuss this with me, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Phillip Chun

## Attachment 9 – Resident request for removal of dead tree

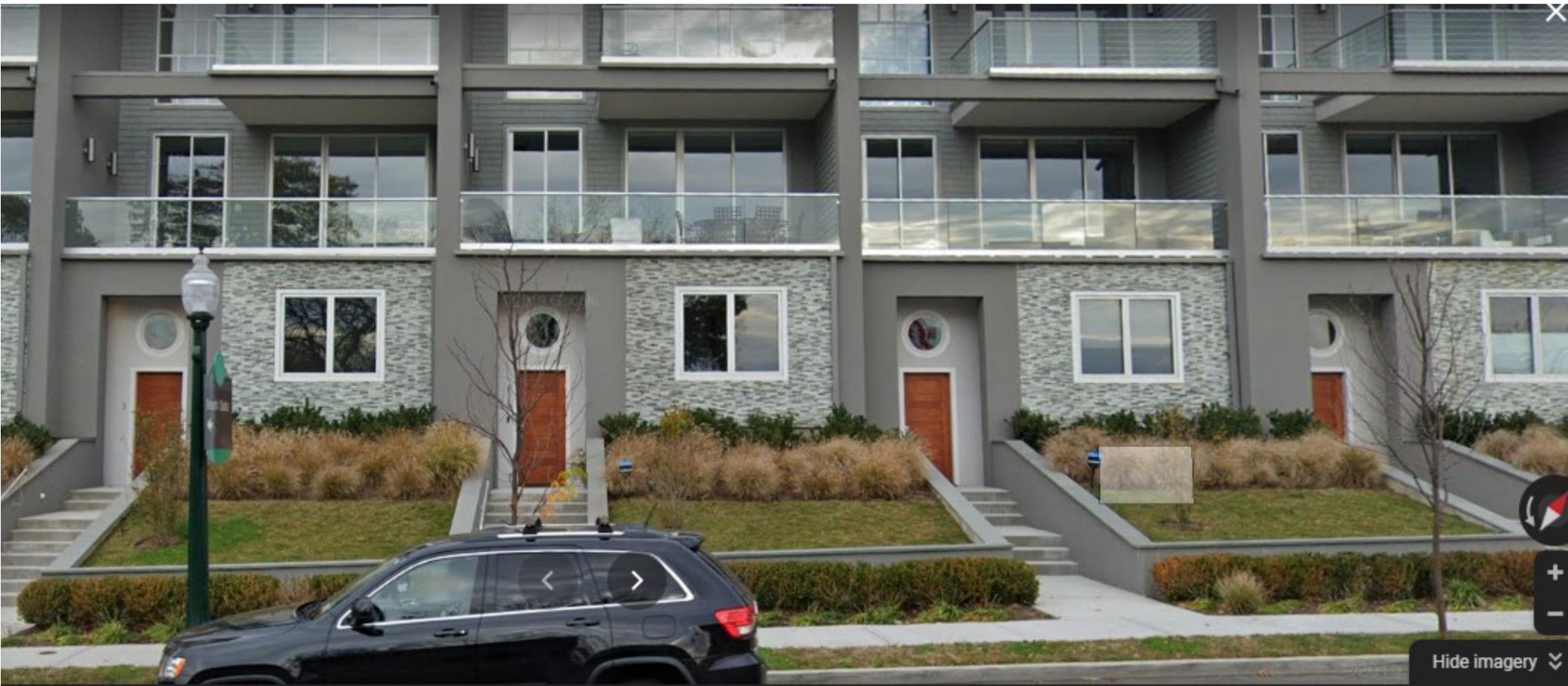
**From:** Courtney Wong <[cwong@vomny.org](mailto:cwong@vomny.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 23, 2020 9:58 AM  
**To:** Jerry Barberio <[jbarberio@vomny.org](mailto:jbarberio@vomny.org)>  
**Subject:** 322 South Barry

Hi Jerry,

Two different things. A woman who called Beth (914)698-5624 claims a tree in her front yard is dead and that she called a few years ago and it was put on a list to be removed but never has. This is the tree furthest away from the driveway. The second complaint from Beth is that the house in her backyard (house on the corner of the parkway) has a dead tree that she is nervous will fall and they don't seem to take down. She claims the tree in the front yard is on Village Property.

Thanks,

Courtney



## **Attachment 11 – Trustee Tafur regarding Hoyt Ave**

All: with the village manager on it, and BOT support, let's request MTA plan to remedy.

Jerry, If this needs to come to BOT for action, such as an official letter, please add to upcoming session.

Stay safe, Victor

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Victor M. Tafur  
Trustee, Village of Mamaroneck, New York  
123 Mamaroneck Ave. 10543

## Attachment 12 -- Trees Along Hoyt, Committee for the Environment

### Trees

ELLEN SILVER

Mon, Dec 7, 6:29 PM (5 days ago)

Hi Beverley, I am reaching out for two reasons. First, members of the CFTE have expressed upset and concern over the cutting down of trees on the embankment also

**Beverley Sherrid** <mrssherrid@gmail.com> Mon, Dec 7, 8:31 PM (5 days ago)

to ELLEN

This message has been deleted. Restore message

Hi Ellen,

Thanks for your concern. The Tree Committee is aware of the trees cut down on both Hoyt and Bishop along the MetroNorth embankment. The Village is willing to replant but needs MetroNorth to grant permission. Jerry Barberio is trying to get this. I know the residents on Bishop are very upset. I'm glad that CFTE is advocating for Hoyt, which doesn't have residents but is just as glaring a problem. I'll make sure that our next agenda includes an update on this.

VOM has been committed to planting new trees for at least 10 years. Generally we've planted about 200/year -- the last two years have been less, one year because of a problem with the supply and this year because of budget cuts. The biggest obstacle has been the hours needed to identify appropriate sites because the Village doesn't have enough staff available. The Tree Committee fills that void with volunteer time. A million trees is more than we can accommodate, but a steady 200/year is pretty robust.

I'd be interested in hearing the podcast you mentioned. People talk about needing technological advances to pull carbon out of the atmosphere. Actually, that's what trees already do. We need to protect the ones we have and plant new ones.

Thanks again. Let's keep in touch!

Beverley