

2/9/2023

Village of Mamaroneck Tree Committee  
15 February 2023 Agenda

**\*Approval of the January 18, 2022 Minutes** (*Attachment 1*)

**\*Distribute handbooks from NYS DEC**

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

**\*Correspondence**

- 315 Mamaroneck Ave regarding ROW pruning (*Attachment 2*)

**\*Old Business**

VOM Inspection for Maintenance or Removal *Please provide street numbers when reporting tree-related issues*

- Google doc for committee use

Public and Private Tree Removals, Applications, Violations

Tree Law Update

- Response to Pleasantville questions (*Attachment 3*)

Spring Planting

- Planting may begin third week of April depending on weather
- Approximately 50 trees carried over from fall, 10 new trees on order
- Village Manager's office sending letters to property owners about new ROW trees

MTA land along Bishop Ave

- Status of Right of Entry agreement with MTA to work near their property

**\*New Business**

- Draft Mission Statement (*Attachment 4*)

**\*Other Business** (*committee members please add any items not otherwise included in the agenda*)

- NYDEC free webinar "The Costs of Not Maintaining Your Trees" Feb 28, 12 noon for <https://meetny.webex.com/weblink/register/rcb4bcf6ea8a1fe9c12ccb6e6320a00>

- Health and economic benefits from urban trees, *Science Notes*  
<https://www.sciencealert.com/people-in-portland-planted-trees-decades-later-a-stunning-pattern-emerged>

**\*Calendar Notes**

- March --, 2023, Regatta Conference Room, 7:30 pm
- 12 February 2023, Tree Walk in Columbus Park, 1:00 pm
- -- April 2023, rescheduled Library Centennial Celebration, Tree Planting at Rushmore Ave Playground, HIP

**Attachment 1**  
**Village of Mamaroneck Tree Committee Minutes DRAFT**  
**January 18, 2023**

Present: Beverley Sherrid, Marlene Starr, Sarah Evans, Krishna Finkenberg, Wendy Zoland, Sarah Mignano, Tom Murphy, Jerry Barberio, Gail Koller, Caroline Williams, Jarret Williams.

Meeting convened at 7:37 pm

VOTE Minutes approval for the last two meetings October 17 & December 19<sup>th</sup> 2022

Comments from residents

120 Osborne residents Caroline and Jarrett Williams

- Here to discuss reasonable effort to save pine tree; 10/10/2019 Subdivision approval, purchase by current owners September 2021 (1 month prior to Tree Law being passed) Memo from VOM attorney thinks this is a protected tree, therefore Village Building Inspector or designee (Jerry Barberio) must grant approval, advisory from tree committee.
- Approval granted to remove tree, discussion about what will be replanted.
- Permit will be available tonight and within two years trees must be planted.

VOM Trees for Inspection, Removal

- Google sheets to be available to committee for monthly DPW Street/ Village and Park trees that need inspection, pruning or removal.
- 407 Wagner, hazardous tree must be removed. Unclear whether VOM or private, deed not on file.

Private Trees

- 575 Alda tree is on the boundary, adjacent affected property owner must sign off before permit is granted. Decayed base, hazardous.

Spring Planting

- 47 bare root locations list almost complete, letters will go to property owners.
- Rockland pocket preserve trees paid with tree budget, additional trees need to be purchased for ROW locations.
- MTA Land along Bishop Avenue will be replanted on adjacent VOM land. VOM still negotiating right of entry agreement. Deputy Village Attorney will complete paperwork. This is the final step, then order and plant the new trees.
- Town of Rye plans to replace Otter Creek Bridge so no new street trees will be planted there until project completion.

Tree Removals

- Posting permits when a tree removal is approved. Laminated notice will be attached to tree to notify of approved permit.

### New Business

- Revised list of recommended street trees as of 12/10/2022 discussion. List is short to focus on native trees, not just what is available at the nursery. Some non-natives on the list because the tree fulfills other needs.  
VOTE Motion to approve revised tree list unanimously approved as amended.
- 30 Spotted Lantern Traps to put out, monitoring species in the area.
- Update, metro north tree removal discussion from last month. Gov Hochel vetoed responsible vegetation and management bill. It will be reintroduced.

### Other business

- Library planting commemorative tree 3/25 White Oak @ Rushmore Ave Playground. Library is requesting table representation at this. Ask Jocelyn, Sheldrake Education Center about coming. Free Saplings?
- Pleasantville inquiring about VOM Tree Law. How many has the Village taken down for the last calendar year? (11 months) 60 trees down, planted about 250!

### Calendar

Next meeting, 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month 2/15

**Guided Tree Walk**, 12 February 2023, Tree Walk in Columbus Park, 1:00 pm. Waiver required. Permit needed for posting signage. Contact Jocelyn Kleinman now to schedule for Spring walk.

8:55 pm move to adjourn.

Attachment –  
315 Mamaroneck Ave regarding ROW pruning

Hi Jerry,

Thank you for the update! The Gentlemen are doing a GREAT job! I appreciate the follow up and commitment in beautifying the Business District!

All the best,  
Carmela  
**The Fine Men's Salon**  
315 Mamaroneck Avenue  
Mamaroneck, New York 10543

Jerry Barberio  
TreeCom  
Mayor and Board  
Dear Tree Committee members,

I am happy to report that we are pruning the street trees on Mamaroneck Ave with our own trained Parks Department staff.

Thank you for your patience as we needed time to train them and have a good fortune of a mild winter so far.

Have a great day.

Jerry Barberio  
Village Manager  
Village of Mamaroneck

Attachment 3  
Response to Pleasantville CAC (Helen Meurer) regarding Tree Law

**From:** <[helen@loring.net](mailto:helen@loring.net)>  
**Subject:** [ELLA] Some tree ordinance questions  
**Date:** January 2, 2023 at 3:53:39 PM EST  
**To:** <[ellahhh@googlegroups.com](mailto:ellahhh@googlegroups.com)>  
**Reply-To:** [helen@loring.net](mailto:helen@loring.net)

Happy New Year!

For those of you in municipalities with tree ordinances can you please take a couple of minutes to answer a few questions?

The Village of Mamaroneck distinguishes between Village (VOM) trees planted in the rights-of-way along streets and in parks, and trees on private property. Our new tree law (10/2021) tightened up some of the regulations around VOM trees and introduced protections requiring inspection and permits for certain trees on private property. Needless to say, it's the private property part that has elicited the most attention.

How many tree removal requests per year? We received 95 applications (not all were approved) for permits to remove private trees. 2022 was our first real year under the new law. In the course of the year, as residents began to understand it better, the type of permit application has shifted from people who just didn't want a tree, to those who had valid reasons for removing, such as poor condition, likely danger, growing within 10 feet of a building, etc.

Is there a limit to the number of trees allowed to be removed? (We are assuming there are exceptions for emergencies, diseased trees etc)

Private Trees -- Permits are limited to up to three protected (8" dbh or greater) trees within a 3-year period, or 2 protected (3" dbh) in a wetlands area within a 2-year period. Exceptions may be made when more trees are dead, diseased, dangerous, or part of an emergency situation although that's not explicit in the law.

VOM Trees – VOM removes street and park trees that are dead, diseased, or dangerous. In 2022 we took down 60 trees. I am hoping this number will eventually be smaller because we have recently introduced a budget line for pruning mature trees. It should let us take out dead branches before they become the gateway for more extensive decay.

How often do people have trees cut down without getting a permit? Well, that's hard to say. Enforcement is definitely the hardest part. The Village only knows a tree is being taken down if someone reports it. Saturday mornings seem to be popular times for illegal removals.

Do they get fined? The fine is not less than \$1,050 and not less than \$5,000 for removing one or two protected trees, and not less than \$1,500 or more than \$7,500 for each additional tree.

Do they pay the fines? Once violations are issued there is an automatic Court appearance ticket issued and payment would go through the Court. I'm not sure how the courts handle unpaid collections, possibly attach them to the property tax bills.

If you have a replanting program, who does the replanting?

The town? For a number of years, the Village contracted with local nurseries or the original grower who sold the trees to plant them. More recently, Parks employees have been trained to do the planting (and they are quite good at it).

The property owner? Property owners are responsible for their own replanting. The law requires replanting based on the size of the lot and the number and size of the trees taken down. New trees must be non-invasive species of similar mature height or greater.

Is there a tree health check to ensure the tree has survived (say 3 years?) Yes, VOM will inspect the replanted private trees for 2-year survival. VOM trees are pretty visible and either VOM staff or residents, especially Tree Committee members, report trees for inspection.

How many trees are planted (to replace those cut down) in your municipality? (per year) The Village has had a robust planting program for its public trees for about 15 years. Quantities vary and ranged between 100-200/year for about 10 years. The pandemic and economic downturn affected two years, with no planting in 2020 and 36 new trees in Spring 2022. Fall 2022 / Spring 2023 (fiscal year) we expect to have planted about 250 new VOM trees.

We are trying to figure out how time consuming a tree ordinance is – for permitting, follow up, tree replanting. Good luck! It's important. Public education programs should be part of your strategy so residents will understand all the benefits that mature trees convey.

Thank you!

Helen Meurer  
Pleasantville CAC

**Attachment 4**  
**Tree Committee Mission Statement**  
*From 2021 Tree Law*

The mission of the Tree Committee is to preserve trees, to minimize damage to and removal of trees, and to increase the tree canopy of the Village of Mamaroneck.