



Town Tree Committee – Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2026, 2:30 PM

Town Seal Conference Room, 36 Bartlet Street, Andover MA 01810

- **Attendees:** M. Lindstrom, J. Michalik, E. Poland, C. Jaquez, M. Chave, W. Cheeley, J. Sutton, P. Sanborn, C. Bach, M. Eusden
- **Call to order:** 2:32 PM by Chair Willow Cheeley
- **Minute approval**
 - Minutes were unanimously approved of the 12/10/25 meeting
- **Public Comment**
 - None
- **Status reports**
 - DCR Forestry Grant
 - Mike L. provided an update that two firms had reached out and expressed interest in the town's RFP. Responses were due on Friday, January 16th
 - Mindy C. provided an update on potential speaker series that included an upcoming presentation by the Mass Association of Conservation Commissions
 - Mindy offered to find potential speakers to be funded through the DCR grant
 - Group discussed locations and whether in person or remote to maximize grant funds
 - York Street Proposal
 - Carlos J. and committee discussed meeting date and time for public meeting on York Street and selected 2/4 at 6pm at the Municipal Services Building at 5 Campanelli Drive
 - Committee briefly viewed Willow's slide of phased removals and replacements on York
 - Group discussed having a video made of the planting of trees on York and making it a public event
 - Possibly use this neighborhood project as town's Arbor Day event on April 24, 2026 as well as educational video
 - 250th Celebration of historic Andover Trees
 - Member Joann Michalik provided an update that she and Mike L. had met with the Town's Communication Director to develop web page
 - First phase of web page to be completed by 2/1 to include mission statement, 250 trees



for Andover 250, the online sign-up form to get a free tree, and the FAQ page

- Second phase of the web page would include contest and description of residents favorite trees
- Paul S. discussed how town would handle planting instructions as well as discussed tree varieties for the giveaway
- Committee wanted to begin sign-ups in February

- Route 133 Corridor
 - Claudia B. indicated there would be another Working Group meeting before the next tree committee meeting and would report back on new developments
 - Willow C. stressed that advocacy was needed with MassDOT that street trees should not just go back in the hell strip
 - Potentially have Paul Materazzo attend a future Tree Committee meeting

- Red Oak on Salem
 - Group discussed could this tree and others be marked as historic with a Tree ID to promote preservation and history
 - Committee discussed how to stay in contact with new owner of 157 Salem Street to ensure tree is being accounted for
- **Discussion**
 - Committee discussed Town's relationship with NGRID as it relates to tree pruning decisions and coordination
 - Willow discussed questionable effectiveness, directional pruning, and the impacts of not considering future health
 - Paul discussed priorities of hazard trees and that two arborists from Davies were assisting the Town in identifying hazard tree locations
- **Adjourn Meeting**
 - Meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm