

**Draft Minutes**  
**LORAX Meeting**  
**July 10, 2017, City Council Chambers**

**Attendees:** Councillor Steve Dibble, Chris Burke, Rick Rennard, Kirt Rieder, Flora Tonthat, Barbara Warren, Polly Wilbert

**Observers:** Darleen Melis, Susie Moulton, David Rowand/SAFE

**Next meeting:** Monday, July 24th, 6:30 PM at 120 Washington St., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conf. Rm.

Discussion re length of ordinance document and desire to shorten ordinance and where we are in the process following the last meeting

DM: Not sure how she feels about some of the things in the ordinance.

KR: Glossary position.

BW: Legal review will correctly position glossary.

PW: End of second paragraph. Add **addition of ...** and replacement **and addition of trees**

Discussion of subdivision rules re tree lawn vs front lawn placement of trees. Discussion of PUD tree placement. Site plan review issue of tree placement. Large development section language re trees.

Discussion of siting of correct tree for each situation.

Discussion of public shade tree within 20 feet of curb on private property (residential setback allowance according to state law). What if next property owner doesn't want the tree? Witchcraft Heights has largest proportion of trees in the 20 foot setback. (CB: And in McIntire District?)

RR: The city's tree release document does not carry over to a new owner. Any new owner has to sign their own release to carry public tree categorization over to new ownership.

PW: Expressed concern that the tree inventory underway isn't going to recognize public trees in the residential setback unless they are informed about public tree placements within the 20 foot setback.

Discussion: Language re building permit, move to a better place in ordinance. Not correctly placed in statement of purpose.

Contractor provide notice re trees? Add a box re trees to building permits?

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Edit language re Tree City USA (remove first “annual”). Change “curb lawn” to “tree lawn”.

Discussion of new elm tree locations (Hawthorne Boulevard – What about Assembly House on Federal St.?)

Tree money will go into a designated account. Noted that the MBTA pays a nursery directly.

Setback definitions/reviewed: Residential setback: 20 feet from public rights of way

Discussion of tree survey and whether a licensed professional needs to be used

Root zone equals drip line.

Extended discussion about licensure of tree warden Discussion about whether the tree warden might not be a certified arborist. Consensus for certified tree arborist.

KR: Advocates strongly for a certified arborist.

CB: Noted that arborist certification is not a state license, rather it's a private certification.

Discussion of Tree Warden position being appointed by Mayor/approved by City Council  
-- Check with City Solicitor.

Review ended on Page 5 of draft text. At next meeting draft text review will pick up on Page 5 to move forward.

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