



KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
MAYOR

CITY OF SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS
TREE COMMISSION
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DARLEEN MELIS, CHAIR
KIRT RIEDER, VICE CHAIR

Touch the Future - Plant a Tree

**MINUTES OF THE SALEM TREE COMMISSION
DECEMBER 19, 2022**

A meeting of the Salem Tree Commission was held on December 19, 2022, at 7:00 p.m., via ZOOM, an online video conference call system in accordance with Chapter 107 of the Act of 2022.

Present on call were:

Chair Darleen Melis; Members: Naomi Cottrell, Cady Goldfield, Paul L'Heureux, Rachel McCarter, Jane Rumrill and Susan Yochelson; Raymond Jodoin, Director of Operations, DPS and Commission Clerk Joanne Roomey. Absent was Vice Chair Kirt Rieder.

1. Raymond Jodoin, Director of Operations, Department of Public Services Report

a. INTERNAL TREE CREW UPDATE

- Staff were redirected to installing city decorations for the holidays. As a result, only twelve work orders were completed; currently 83 are open.
- Staffing levels will be reduced in November and December due to vacations and personal leave.

b. PRIME GROUP HOLDINGS

- The request to remove two trees in front of 27 Congress Street (tree permit DPST 22-16) was denied because the trees are in a protected zone. Prime Groups Holding was informed of their hearing rights by letter.

c. NORTH SHORE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- Fined \$500 for violation at Leavitt and Congress Street for pruning a Protected Tree. Check was received December 19, 2022.
- Approached Mr. Jodoin about removing two trees at between #23 and #37 Ward Street (#34 Peabody Street) see map below. NSCDC was advised to submit a plan of the project in advance of a hearing and for review by the Tree Commission.

d. LAPPIN PARK PROJECT

- DPS is working with a landscape architect for ideas on improvements for the site. This is in the early conceptual stage. Bobrek Engineering is the GC.

2. Greening the Gateway Cities Program – Barbara Warren, Salem Sound Coastwatch-

Ms. Warren explained to the commission that DCR is offering a new GGCP Implementation grant for FY24 with funding up to \$100,000. One important feature is that funds can be used outside of the GGCP designated zone. The grant allows for tree planting

on city, residential and commercial properties, soil preparation, preparing tree pits, tree watering, site preparation, stump removal, community outreach and more, including hiring a subcontractor. The application requires a detailed work plan which includes specific locations for tree planting.

Applications are due by **February 23, 2023**. Darleen Melis suggested using the survey document created by James MacArthur in 2021 that identified viable locations for future planting.

3. Tree Planting Services Contract IFB April 2022

Ms. Melis reviewed the first 20 pages of the Invitation for Bids - Tree Planting Services Contract with the commission. The fact remains that the city needs to get a Certified Arborist/Tree Warden who will oversee the contractor's performance. In the meantime, Mr. Jodoin will review page 18, B. Powers and Duties of the City Arborist focusing on M.G.L. c. 87 entitled "Shade Trees" and will follow-up with the commission on whether the contract should reference the City of Salem Tree Ordinance as well. The commission will review 20 pages of the contract at each of the next two meetings.

4. Tree Commission member discussion – interests and concerns

- More trees planted and to remediate some of the sickly trees
- Permanent Certified Arborist/Tree Warden
- Ms. Goldfield volunteered her services to do training sessions on pruning
- Ms. Rumrill suggested contacting the City Councillors to see if they know of anyone who would be interested in volunteering once a Tree Warden is hired
- The commission feels they are at a standstill without a permanent Tree Warden or Certified Arborist
- Gonyea Park - present DEP with the GGCP tree planting plan and map so that the monitoring wells can be installed

5. Emerald Ash Borer Beetle – Advisory to Salem property owners - next steps

An alert has been posted on the Tree Commission's website under News & Announcements regarding the Emerald Ash Borer Beetles Infect Local Trees: https://www.salemma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf7986/f/news/eab_alert_12-6-22_news_and_announcements.pdf

The Tree Commission will follow-up in the spring with a presentation regarding the status of the Emerald Ash Borer Beetles; possible location – Forest River Park.

6. Approve Tree Commission Minutes of November 21, 2022

Ms. Cottrell made a motion to approve the Tree Commission Meeting Minutes of November 21, 2022. Seconded by Ms. Goldfield. A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried unanimously.

7. New Business:

At the January 2023 meeting, the commission will vote on officers.

Revised Tree Commission schedule policy: Regular Tree Commission meetings are scheduled for the third Monday of the month. When the third Monday is a state or federal holiday, the TC meeting will be scheduled for the second Monday of the month.

Start the process of repairing the gas leak near the Methodist Church parking lot on North Street so that trees can be planted near the church, offsetting the expected loss of ash trees on the opposite side of North Street.

- 8. **Next Meeting Dates: Monday, January 9, 2023 and Monday February 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.** via Zoom.
- 9. **Adjournment:** There being no further business to come before the Tree Commission this evening, Ms. Cottrell moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Yochelson. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at **8:10 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne M. Roomey
Commission Clerk

Know your rights under the Open Meeting Law M.G.L. c. 30A §18-25 and City Ordinance Sections 2-2028 through 2-2033

Requested tree removals on Ward Street

Parcel ID	Address
34-0232-0	9 PEABODY STREE SOUTH RIVER PAR
34-0388-0	12 PEABODY STRI LAFAYETTE HOUSE
34-0439-0	15 PEABODY STRI SALEM CITY OF
34-0387-0	18 PEABODY STRI NORTHCUTT MICK
34-0386-0	20 PEABODY STRI SALEM POINT II LI
34-0385-0	24 PEABODY STRI LAFAYETTE HOUSE
34-0436-0	25 PEABODY STRI MASSACHUSETTS
34-0384-0	34 PEABODY STRI LIGHTHOUSES APP
34-0383-0	38 PEABODY STRI SALEM POINT II LI
34-0382-0	46 PEABODY STRI SALEM POINT II LI
34-0381-0	52 PEABODY STRI NEW POINT ACQU
34-0380-804	56 PEABODY STRI LE HANG T.N.
34-0380-807	56 PEABODY STRI PHO BA H.
34-0380-805	56 PEABODY STRI OMBSEN JAMES H
34-0380-802	56 PEABODY STRI OLSEN GADE
34-0380-806	56 PEABODY STRI HUYNH MAPHISON
34-0380-803	56 PEABODY STRI COSIC BORO
34-0380-801	56 PEABODY STRI OMBSEN JAMES H
34-0380-808	56 PEABODY STRI CORMSER MICHAEL
34-0379-0	60 PEABODY STRI 56 PEABODY ST CL

Field	Value
Parcel ID	34-0384-0
Address	34 PEABODY STREET
Owner	LIGHTHOUSES APARTMENTS
Map Lot	34
Lot	0384
Block	0
Map Lot	
Account Number	13682
User Account	34
Street Number	34
Street Name Alt	PEABODY STREET
Condo Unit	
NBC	AS
LUC	114