

Meeting Minutes Waterbury Tree Board - Tuesday, Sept. 9, 2025
Hope Davey Park, Waterbury Center - Picnic Shelter - 5:30 - 7 PM

Attendees: Stuart Whitney, Barb Blauvelt, Nita Hultstrum, and Jane Brown

Agenda - Added : 1. Skate Park tree 2. Nita typed up and submitted our response to the questionnaire sent by W. Planning Commission for the Waterbury Town Plan

May 6, 2025 Tree Board Meeting Minutes: Approved

Public Comments: No Attendees

1. We did not have time for first 3 Agenda items. We will add to Oct. and Nov 2025: Review 2025 accomplishments, challenges and 2026 priorities and prepare a tree maintenance budget to discuss that we plan to submit in Nov. 2025

2. New skate park at Hope Davey Park - We spoke to Belle MacDougall about coordinating with Jake Balauvelt of Acer tree. They would like the removal of a large Birch with 3 trunks and possible replacement next to the new skate park.

3. **Town Plan** - We needed to respond to an online survey from the Planning Commission about the Aspirations, Goals and Strategies of the Tree Board.

Below is my quick summary of the online survey from my notes:

- **Aspirations** - We aspire for the town to have a healthy tree canopy with a diversity of species, to help mitigate climate change and other environmental changes.

- **Goals** - To continue to inoculate a designated group of healthy Ash trees against Emerald Ash borer to preserve trees and mitigate the spread of the Emerald Ash Borer, To continue to promote the structural pruning of trees to vigor, tree health and resistance to extreme weather events.

To replace trees to maintain a healthy tree canopy in key areas of town to provide shade and other environmental benefits using a variety of species and cultivars.

To train Waterbury Public Works staff in tree maintenance and pruning methods and best management practices.

- **Strategies**- To work with the Town to establish an annual budget to help plan and prune, maintain and replace budget for trees

4. **Hope Davey parking lot pruning.**

a. **Row of River Birch trees**- Pruned lowest branches for pedestrian safety.

b. **Wild crabapple trees** - Removed two trees by the roadway fence & trimmed thorns and lower branches of the remaining two trees.

c. We postponed trimming the crabapple trees and lilacs by the side of the parking lot.

d. Branches were piled high for the town to pick up.

4. **Next Waterbury Tree Board Meeting, Tuesday, October 14 at 5:30 PM** - library

5. Adjourned at 7:30 PM