

Bowdoinham Tree Plan Committee

(A sub-committee of the Comprehensive Plan Committee)

May 7, 2025

Attending: Jan Marks, Susan Drucker, Nina Mendall, Frank Drummond, Hank Ogilby, Peggy Christian

Absent: Justin Schlawin, Mark Tanner

Facilitator: Jan Marks

Meeting Secretary: Peggy Christian/Hank Ogilby

We first discussed the purpose of the committee: to create a long-term management strategy for trees in public space in Bowdoinham to ensure an attractive visual landscape and the environmental importance of trees.

A motion was made by Frank and seconded by Susie for Hank to be the chair. The motion passed unanimously. Later in the meeting it was also unanimously approved that Jan and Hank would share the responsibility of the chair.

It was agreed that the position of secretary would rotate, in alphabetical order, between the members, the chairs being exempt.

It was agreed the meetings will be held the first Wednesday of the month at 6pm in the Graduate's Room of the Town Office.

We created a timeline for our work:

December - draft plan will be completed

January - public hearing will be held

February - revised plan will be presented to Comp Planning Comm

March - revised plan will be presented to the selectboard

April & May - disseminate information to the community

June - Town Meeting

Questions to answer:

What is the definition of a heritage tree?

Are there heritage trees in any of the cemeteries?

Who is responsible for trees in the right of way?

Can we get a map of all town owned properties?

Are there surviving elm trees in town?

It was agreed that Toby Frizzle, Director of Public Works should be invited to our next meeting.

We had a discussion about the Emerald Ash Borer and the threat it poses to many trees in town. Nina moved and Peggy seconded a motion to hold an information session on EAB. We will also try to have articles in the town newsletter.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:23pm

Hank Ogilby
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