

Bowdoinham Municipal Tree Plan

Committee Meeting Minutes

12/3/25

1- Call to order (6:06)/Attending: Jan Marks (Chair), Peggy Christian, Nina Mendall, Susan Drucker, Hank Ogilby (Secretary), Mark Tanner, Frank Drummond, Mike Roland

1a- Additions to Agenda: added costs/finances as an item to be discussed.

2- Review/Approve previous meeting minutes: several edits were made. A motion was made to approve, all were in favor - approved.

3- Review/Approve Draft Municipal Tree Plan Version #2

Various edits were made, which are highlighted in v. 3

4- Finalize/Approve section on Communication

It was agreed to strike this section, and be sure it is fully mentioned in other sections.

A short discussion ensued as to current state of the town's tree practices (ie. leaving limb "stubs") - it was commented that this is NOT "best practice".

5- Finalize/Approve Definitions, including definition of Heritage Trees

Discussion ensued as to where to put a "Definitions Section" in our plan proposal.

There was much discussion as to the definition of a "Heritage Tree", especially with regards to those trees that are on private property.

A final version of a definition was agreed upon: *Any tree which because of age, size, species, historical association or horticultural value is of special importance.*

5a. Discussion of draft document for Costs/Finances:

Shall we include this, or simply have it available? Discussion ensued.

How much should be included regarding all other cost estimates?

The decision was made not to include a cost/finance section, and to do this orally when presenting to the Select Board. Maybe we need to brainstorm this and create a list of items before we meet with the Board?

5b- With an agreed upon final proposal, the question was presented as to whether we should present this plan to the Comprehensive Plan Committee on Wed., Dec. 10?

It was agreed that we should.

- a) If they accept/approve... then we will target a public forum for Feb.
- b) After which we could plan for a presentation to the Select Board in March.

(There was no discussion as to what we should do if the CPC does not approve our plan.)

6- Discussion of plans for Community Forum on MTP

Tabled

7- Discussion CMP Pruning Practices

Tabled

7a- A short discussion ensued regarding the town sidewalk plan. All the options being considered involved the “cutting down of 12 large trees” on Main St.

It was agreed that this is something that merits further investigation and discussion.

8- Assignments for January 7, 2026 meeting:

It was determined that we could present final copy of our plan to the CPC on Dec. 10th. Hank agreed to put together the final copy, and forward it to Jan, Peggy and Yvette.

Jan and Peggy will present the plan to the CPC.

9- The Meeting was adjourned at 7:34

Faithfully Submitted by Hank Ogilby

