

**URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION**  
**AGENDA-SPECIAL MEETING**  
JUNE 2, 2026, AT 6:00 PM.  
BY ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING

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Members of the public who wish to provide public comment are encouraged to submit those via email in advance of the meeting. For these comments to be read into the record, they should be submitted at least three hours in advance of the meeting start time. Please email Dilene Byrd at [dbyrd@norwalkct.gov](mailto:dbyrd@norwalkct.gov) to provide written public comment prior to the meeting.

Attendance: Peter Viteretto, Chair  
Gay MacLeod, Vice Chair  
Amy Verel  
David McGoldrick

Staff: Sarah Cruz, Arborist/ Horticulturalist  
Chris Torre, Tree Warden

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Viteretto called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

## **II. ROLL CALL**

Mr. Viteretto called the roll, and all those listed were present. There was a quorum present.

## **III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation this evening.

## **IV. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION ON APRIL 28, 2026.**

- \*\* MS. MACLEOD MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS AMENDED.**
- \*\* MS. VEREL SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- \*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **V. REPORTS**

### **A. Tree Planting Spring 2026**

Ms. Cruz reported on the status of the tree-planting program and noted that they will be planting through mid-June. This spring, 81 trees have been planted under the contracts, and the green workforce trainees will have planted 76 trees. Mr. Viteretto noted that the variety of trees planted should be documented and that the higher priority is achieving shade canopy cover on the roadways.

Mr. Torre provided an overview of the tree removal at 18 Pine Hill Avenue and said the homeowner was unaware that the tree was a city tree. They were charged \$10,750 for the tree's removal, and the payment has been received. Ms. Varrier suggested that the restitution value should vary depending on the species and location of the tree. Mr. Torre noted that they can fine up to three times the tree's assessed value per the state statute.

## **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. West Avenue Medians**

There was a discussion regarding potential tree plantings in the medians on West Avenue. Mr. Viteretto noted that West Avenue follows a program that prioritizes primary and secondary roadways, and part of that program is making Norwalk more valuable through tree plantings, as trees increase economic value, and suggested an educational program moving forward.

**B. Legacy Tree Program**

Mr. McGoldrick noted that a support structure would be needed for the legacy tree program. There was discussion about the program and about making it historically significant to celebrate the nation's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday. The goal will be to have it advertised by the Fourth of July. Ms. Cruz noted that the Tree Alliance is planting 250 trees and that the city is contributing 100 to that goal, and suggested a collaboration. She also noted the ordinance is only applicable to public property.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Tree Care Brochure**

The committee reviewed and discussed recommendations for the tree care brochure.

**VIII. NORWALK TREE ALLIANCE UPDATES**

There were no updates this evening.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* MR. MCGOLDRICK MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**\*\* MS. MACLEOD SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd