

## **City of Cambridge Committee on Public Planting**

Meeting Minutes – October 9, 2024 - 5:30-7pm

Hybrid Meeting via Zoom & at DPW - 147 Hampshire St.

### **Attendance** (\* indicates virtual attendance)

CPP Members: Ahron Lerman, Cindy Carpenter, Chantal Eide, Cynthia Smith, Gretchen Friesinger, Maggie Booz, Ray Fahrner, Robb Johnson, Ruth Loetterle, Sandra Fairbank, Sophia Emperador, Tracey Orr [*Members not in attendance*: Archana, Sara]

DPW/City of Cambridge: Kevin Beuttell, David Lefcourt, Andrew Putnam, Kristen Kelleher, Cortney Kirk (CDD)

Guests & members of the public: Liana Greenberg-Nielson, Green Cambridge; Heather Hoffman, Sarah Merin, Charlie Teague, Cambridge4Trees, Nonie Valentine

Meeting notes submitted by: Maggie Booz

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### **Agenda Items:**

- Review previous meeting minutes
- Updates from City Arborists
- Collaboration with DCR
- Forest Friends Newsletter
- Website for CPP
- Design Reviews upcoming
- Tasks for CPP members
- Future meeting agenda items
- Public comments

#### **1) Review prior meeting minutes**

Motion to approve by Maggie, with edits, seconded by Cindy

#### **2) Updates from City Arborists** (David and Andrew)

Abby had her babay last Sunday, named "Lucille"

David will be in NJ week of October 14<sup>th</sup> to tag trees at Tuckahoe Nursery

In-house crew has opened wells and is using existing trees from City nursery to plant

They will be adding compost tree to over 1000 tree wells in the next month

Over 100 new tree wells have been opened, which will take bare root trees

#### **3) Collaboration with DCR** (Rob and Andrew)

City wants to collaborate, Jen LeTourneau leading the effort

City figuring out a legal agreement to do so

City work/suggestion must align with State plans for locations, species, methodology, etc  
Plans to talk with Emerald Necklace group about how their relationship with the State functions

High value locations mentioned such as Fresh Pond Parkway

#### **4) Forest Friends Newsletter** (Kristen)

500 subscriptions before summer, now 637, wants 700 by year's end

Sign-up is easy with a push of the button on the City website  
"Forest Foes" tidbit to alert the public of insect pests, "Trivia" section  
Looking for ideas for content  
Considering advertising FF on Bluebike stations, deadline November 11, 2024  
Making contact with "green" groups, manning tables, public outreach  
Contacting school liaisons

**5) Website for CPP (Kristen)**

Who we are, what we do, when we meet  
Past Meeting Minutes posted  
Visuals: member photos/bios and highlighting City-wide neighborhood representation  
Links to CDD Special Permit projects thru CDD website

**6) Design Reviews upcoming (Cortney)**

October 24<sup>th</sup> Linear park page-turn (this was subsequently postponed)  
Clement Morgan Park review November 13 CPP  
Rafferty Park review November 13 CPP  
Memorial Drive Phase III improvements are at 100% drawings, going out to bid, Maggie has contacted Dan Driscoll with a request to come to CPP (no response)  
Corcoran park housing project by CHA, construction start previewed for 2026, Maggie will participate in CHA discussions and will arrange a presentation by CHA sometime in 2025

**7) Tasks for CPP members (Cindy and Sophia)**

Visit sites that will be reviewed in November: Clement Morgan and Rafferty Parks  
UFMP 5-year review  
    The CPP will become the Task Force to review the recommendations of the plan  
    CPP members are asked to READ the plan  
    Discussion of whether chapters should be assigned  
    Discussion of whether a "lens" should be suggested through which to read  
    Review could then be a kind of report card on how we are doing in accomplishing  
Participation in GreenCambridge: 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month board meetings  
TPO (Tree Protection Ordinance) modifications  
    Other cities are inquiring about our TPO and we have evidence of them adopting  
    Works well administratively  
    Does it thwart tree removals?  
    Cpp suggests that there should be public notice of removals

**Next meeting:** Our next Zoom meeting will be held on November 13, 2024 at 5:30pm and will be advertised to the public in advance.

*NOTE: The foregoing represents our understanding of the discussions and decisions made during this meeting. The CPP requests permission to quote or reference these notes.*