

**TOWN of SHELBURNE TREE COMMITTEE**  
**February 3, 2026 Meeting Minutes**

In attendance: Gail Henderson-King, Susan Dunning, Gillian Dorfman, Tod Warner, Tree Warden David Hall

Staff: Rachel Tobler

- 1. Call to Order / Review Agenda** – Meeting called to order at 7:13 PM.
- 2. Approve minutes of January 13, 2026** – Minutes were reviewed. Susan motioned to approve the minutes, Dave seconded the motion. January 13<sup>th</sup> minutes were unanimously approved.
- 3. Citizen Participation (Opportunity for public comment on any Committee)** – None.
- 4. Tree City USA Application** – Gail has put together our Tree City USA application which was reviewed by Committee members. The final draft needs to be signed by the Town Manager and submitted to the Tree City People by 2/13.
- 5. Tree Maintenance** – Rachel offered to prepare a RFP for tree maintenance with assistance from Susan and Gail. Most of the trees that need to be included in the RFP are already listed on the grant application and can be gathered from that document. Dave mentioned that even though the Town “Christmas Tree” will be removed and replaced at some point, it has the *Spruce Fungus Needle Cast disease* and should be at least pruned until the replacement is found and probably treated for the fungus as well if it stays in place this year. Members discussed the concern that the same needle cast fungus could infect a similar species. Susan offered to prepare a list of possible trees to replace the Town “Christmas Tree”.
- 6. 2026 Caring for Canopy Grant Application** – The application has been submitted, and we should know the decision by mid-March.
- 7. Ash Tree Cut for Winter 2026** – The deadline for cut bids was extended to 2/13.
- 8. Memorial Tree Application** – Susan and Gillian did some field work and presented the Committee with several possible locations for placement and best suggested tree species for each spot. It was noted that this would simplify the process for the Memorial Tree purchaser. They could either choose a desired location or a specific tree species – one choice instead of several options. Susan also mentioned that the cost of a Memorial Tree should probably be higher than it is and should at least include something for lifetime maintenance costs. Susan also noted a large specimen Ash tree at the beach that has not been accounted for in our

inventory. Dave said this particular tree is actually on Meach Cove property. It was decided to discuss this issue, as well as the spots picked as possible sites for the Memorial Tree at the Beach, with Betsy. Dave mentioned that Davis Park could also use more shade trees.

- 9. Public Education and Outreach / Fundraising** – One of Gillian’s articles was recently published in Shelburne News. Members reviewed one she has drafted on invasives such as the Buckthorn, and the proper way to handle them.
- 10. Tree Warden Report** – The dog park has re-opened. Dave noted that the Serviceberry at the beach will need to be re-planted, which should be added to the maintenance RFP.
- 11. Other Business** – It was noted that the Town Committee could have a table at the town Meeting next month. However, the committee felt they will pass on this.
- 12. January 2026 Accomplishments** – RFP out, Article published, Memorial Tree sites scouted.
- 13. Adjourn** – Meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM

Submitted by Tod Warner

Approved on \_\_\_\_\_

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