

MINUTES

Nyack Tree Committee Meeting

July 16, 2025

Attendance: Jennifer Pfeiffer, Ellyse Berg, Marcy Denker, Steve Cea, Kathleen Johnson

Site Plan Review

Discussion

We would like to review the code provisions for retaining, protecting or replacing trees during the site plan approval process with the Building Inspector. Marcy will set up a meeting.

Some matters to discuss at that meeting:

- What are the requirements for replacing trees that are removed? Paying into the tree fund?
- Adding requirements for protecting trees during construction
- Requiring a replacement for removed trees or dead trees in next growing season
- Adding a specific provision against topping trees

Also, we can have the tree committee conduct a review of all site plan applications that are posted online, but it would be better if the Building Dept. referred those that involved decisions about trees to us. That could be just one checkbox on the application and a message to TC that the application involved trees. The Committee would need to discuss the plans and approve any comments as the committee. If any of us were to make comments that were not approved by the committee about a site plan under review, the person would need to state that they were not speaking on behalf of the committee.

Tree Maintenance

Remove trunk guard on N. Midland – Ellyse

Discussion of trunk guards – some trunks may take ten years after planting to have thick bark resistant to deer rubbing. Trunk guards can be left on, but they will need to be loose enough to accommodate future growth. Mayor Tarapata in Upper Nyack mentioned a biodegradable wrapping used at Riverhook. Jennifer will go by and look.

Improper Tree Pruning

Pavion

Tree Removal

Taco Boys tree was removed. Was it permitted?

Chase Bank

The neglected tree on the southeast side –stakes and ties were left on and the branch is fully girdled. We notified management a few years ago and got them to have the landscaper to remove most stakes, but he

missed this. For a tree on the other side of the property it was too late. They should be required to replace the dead one and should attend to this one.

Tree Planting Locations

Discussion of potential sites for fall. Kathleen will start the spreadsheet.

Upper Nyack Tree Program

Upper Nyack Green Committee members arranged to discuss starting a tree program in Upper Nyack with Mayor Tarapata. Marcy and Steve were invited to share information.

Challenging Tree Locations

We are adding to the slide collection showing potential street tree locations that involve extra site work and property owner cooperation. Kathleen suggested adding the strip along the west side of Chelsea firehouse where the chain-link fence would need to be moved back. The weed trees in that area should also be removed.

Trunk guards

We need to order large corrugated pipe for trunk guards and have them cut.