



KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL  
MAYOR

## CITY OF SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS

### TREE COMMISSION

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DARLEEN MELIS, CHAIR  
KIRT RIEDER, VICE CHAIR

ROBERT LEBLANC, TREE WARDEN

### MINUTES OF THE SALEM TREE COMMISSION

June 15, 2020

A meeting of the Salem Tree Commission was held on June 15, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., via ZOOM, an online video conference call system. Present on call were:

Chair Darleen Melis, Vice Chair Kirt Rieder, Members: Joshua Arenstam, Naomi Cottrell, Curtis Dragon, Paul L'Heureux, Rachel McCarter, David Rowand and Susan Yochelson; Tree Warden Robert LeBlanc and Commission Clerk Joanne Roomey.

#### 1. Tree Warden's Report

Mr. LeBlanc just celebrated his one-year anniversary as Salem's Tree Warden. Congrats Bob!!!! Since Bob has been with the City, he has planting 186 trees and removed 40 to 50 trees.

There will be a virtual Public Shade Tree Hearing on June 30, 2020 to discuss 602 Loring Ave regarding (27) public shade trees varying in size and species: 2" caliper to 15" dbh, total caliper inches is (180).

- Grant Updates:

- The MVP grant trees have all been planted. The final phase for that project is the porous paving which is a separate bid that is being advertised and will be contracted out once price quotes are received.
- The CBDG Grant is complete all trees have been planted.
- The tree requests by residents is set to begin on Tuesday, June 30, 2020 and that should be complete by the end of the week.

#### 2. Discussion of the DCR Urban and Community Challenge Grant

The DCR Challenge Grant has been signed by the City of Salem and has been sent to Boston. The work cannot begin until we receive the document, signed and returned.

3. **Remarks from the Public:** None
4. **Approve Minutes:** Kirt Rieder moved to approve the May 18, 2020 Tree Commission Minutes. Mr. L'Heureux seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.
5. **Century Tree Fund – Century Tree sites for September 2020 planting**

The Commission has roughly \$5,000.00 in the Salem Tree Fund. Different areas around the city were discussed where these funds might be used to plant thriving Century Trees. Also discussed was planting street trees versus Century Trees. The Commission reviewed the locations that they had short-listed before the meeting. These locations are recorded in the spreadsheet and the Google Map that Mr. Arenstam created. Mr. LeBlanc will look at the sites and give five to seven locations for Century Trees. Ms. Cottrell observed that PARC has funds for parks and the Commission agreed not to act on any of the park suggestions.
6. **Tree Replacement Funds – improving walking areas**

During the Century Tree review, multiple areas in the city were discussed as possible sites that could be improved through the use of the Tree Replacement Fund.
7. **New Business:** None
8. **Next Meeting Dates:** Monday, July 20, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. via ZOOM and Monday, August 17, 2020.
9. **Adjournment:** Mr. Rieder made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Arenstam. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne M. Roomey  
Commission Clerk