

## May 15, 2025 - Community Forest Commission Minutes

1 Motion to approval of the Minutes of the April 17, 2025, meeting, proposed by McCarthy, second by Adams and approved unanimously.

### 2. Business

- a. Tree Planting. Zelinski reported that 58 new native trees have been planted this spring:

- 15 Serviceberries
- 15 Red Maples
- 3 Sycamores
- 4 Sweet Gums
- 9 Black Gums
- 6 Princeton Elm Trees
- 3 American Lindens
- 3 Multi Stem Serviceberries.

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In addition, a Serviceberry was planted at Foote Park for Arbor Day and a memorial tree, a Black Gum was planted at Granite Bay Park.

b. Outreach

The Spring Tree Giveaway was a tremendous success. One hundred twenty-five trees were given to residents on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> with instructions about how to plant the trees, and they were given information for their continuing care. The Forest Commission members were joined by several members of the Conservation Commission in distributing the trees.

Website

The wording for donating trees on the BFC Website will be changed to say that if you wish to have a tree planted in memory of someone or to honor someone or commemorate an event, contact the Public Works Department to place an order for a tree.

Landscape Award

Adams will write a press release for the Landscape Award.

- c. Regional Tree Commissions, communications. No report.
- d. Ivy Bigelow Kim, Co-chairwoman, announced her resignation as of May 16, 2025. Members will take turns conducting meetings and proceed with inquiries into finding a new person to join the Commission.
- e. Other:
- Chris Ozyck, who works for Urban Resources Initiative at Yale, has been leading work crews to de-vine trees in New Haven. Invasive vines are strangling trees throughout the area. We could ask to have him advise us in tree dv-vining or ask him to speak about his program. The Branford Land Trust, Parks Open Space Commission and the Conservation Commission would be good to partner with to invite him to speak. This information would be valuable to us all.