

**City of Essex Junction
Tree Advisory Committee
DRAFT Minutes of Meeting
March 24, 2026**

Members Present: Nick Meyer, Warren Spinner, Leslie Goldring, Rich Boyers, Steve Rivard (virtually)

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 by Nick.

2. Additions to the Agenda

No additions to the agenda

3. Public to Be Heard

No additional members of the community were present.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve January meeting minutes was made by Warren, second by Rich.

5. 2026 Tree Planting

Warren shared that around 25 trees from the nursery are ready to be planted. Potentially 10 trees will be allocated to Hiawatha. Seven of the 25 have been designated for specific sites. The committee discussed other possible locations, including near the entrance to the Center for Technology Essex and the Wilkinson Drive neighborhood which has the most ash trees.

6. Arbor Day 2026

Nick has been speaking with Alice Westin at Hiawatha about the Arbor Day celebration. The committee will designate one of its nursery trees. Alice indicated she would like to try a tulip tree.

5. ADL Tree Planting at Maple Street Park

Nick met with the student group at ADL who received the tree planting grant. Nick discussed the challenges of watering in the summer and how it would make more sense to plant the trees at Maple Street Park where park staff could help with maintaining the trees. Nick also recommended students get containerized stock as the trees will be smaller and would be easier to handle.

6. Tree Walk

Steve shared some of the details of the tree walk at St. Michael's College led by Declan McCabe on June 6th. The tree walk will begin at 1:00. The entrance is across from the Sutton Fire House and participants should meet at the steps of the Durick Library. The committee will begin publicizing in May in Front Porch Forum and the Essex Junction City page.

7. PSAs for Spring

The committee discussed restarting sharing PSAs through FPF. Rich will review to determine if they need to be updated.

8. Meetings - Planning Commission and Bike Walk

Nick attended the Planning Commission meeting. The meeting explored the future plans for the shopping centers on Pearl Street. Nick shared his concerns and conveyed how important it is for developers to adhere to code and ensure that there is green space in any new development. Nick attended the Bike Walk Committee meeting and shared plans for bike lanes on Pearl Street and Park Street.

9. Other Items

Warren shared that Essex Junction was designated once again as a Tree City USA. He also shared that there was going to be a final inspection of the trees planted as part of the Save a Tree program grant. Warren indicated that he will begin getting in touch with companies to plant the Junction trees.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:40. .