

**TOWN OF ORONO
TREE BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2022 AT 5:00PM**

WATCH ONLINE AT
<https://zoom.us/j/96207635544>

FOR DIAL IN TO ZOOM WEBINAR
Call 1 (312) 626-6799 Webinar ID: 962 0763 5544

MINUTES

1. Roll Call & Introductions

Present: Dave Thompson (Co-Chair), Pat Thompson, Tim White, Associate members Jason Clarke, Kenny Fergusson, and Environmental Services Coordinator Megan Hess.

Absent: Cindy Blease (Co-Chair), Jennifer Dann, Terri Triandafillou, Jessica Leahy, and Public Works Director/Tree Warden Rob Yerxa.

2. Agenda Review - None

3. Approval of Minutes of February 1, 2022 Board Meeting

Motion by Tim White and seconded by Dave Thompson. All voted in favor, 5-0.

4. Tree Warden Update & Tree Evaluations:

- **Tree Inventory Update Project Canopy Planning Grant**

Ms. Hess gave an update that the grant applications are moving along well. The UMaine intern is on board for tree inventory data collection this summer. If anyone has any comments or edits on the grants they should return those to Ms. Hess by March 7th because they are due March 11th. Mr. Fergusson stated he will not be involved in the grant writing or should not be considered in the grant completion process as that would be a conflict of interest.

- **Godfrey Drive Buffer Strip Planting Grant**

Ms. Hess asked the Tree Board if they would like to have the planting event on May 20th from 3-5pm. Everyone agreed. Mr. Fergusson had concerns about planting Scots Pine, but Mr. Thompson said it grows well in wet areas. Mr. Thompson mentioned the bare root trees will need to be watered right away, so we should plan on having Public Works employees there with the water trucks.

- **Bennoch Road Clearing Project Update**

There were no comments or concerns about starting this project at the end of the month.

5. Browntail Moth Month (BTM) Activities - Feb 2022

- **Mitigation, Education, and Outreach - Trimming Event 2/16**

Ms. Hess gave a brief overview of the updates to the BTM website highlighting the new data that has been collected from people learning about the BTM monitoring website from the Bangor Daily News article and Orono Observer article. She also showed a few pictures of the browntail moth trimming event on February 16th at Asa Adams School. Mr. Fergusson said there are some towns that are doing more on BTM than others during February's BTM Awareness month.

6. Maine Arbor Week Planning - 5/16 - 5/21

- **Arbor Day Celebration at Asa Adams School** - Still in motion to do.
- **Other Events?**

Mr. Clarke said it may be good to reach out to the Bangor Daily News to cover a story on an Arbor Day event like the one at Asa Adams. Mr. White stated it would be good to provide some educational flyers or outreach to the public during Arbor Week to the residents of Orono about the upcoming tree inventory update and the planting event on May 20th. Mr. Thompson mentioned that we should ask the Orono Land Trust and UMaine to borrow some planting bars. Right now, Mr. Thompson has one but we should get at least 3 more to use for the Godfrey Drive planting event.

- **Start thinking about this, more discussion at our April meeting**

Considerations for Arbor Week; 1) Planting with the community at Godfrey Drive, 2) Asa Adams 5th grade event, 3) Education and outreach flyers to Orono residents, 4) ask Bangor Daily news to cover an Arbor Day event.

7. Monthly Tree Board Activity Update

- **Chairperson Update** - None

8. Adjournment - Next Meeting Tuesday, April 5th

At 6:00pm, Tim White motioned and Jason Clarke seconded to adjourn. All voted in favor, 5-0.

Recording was made.

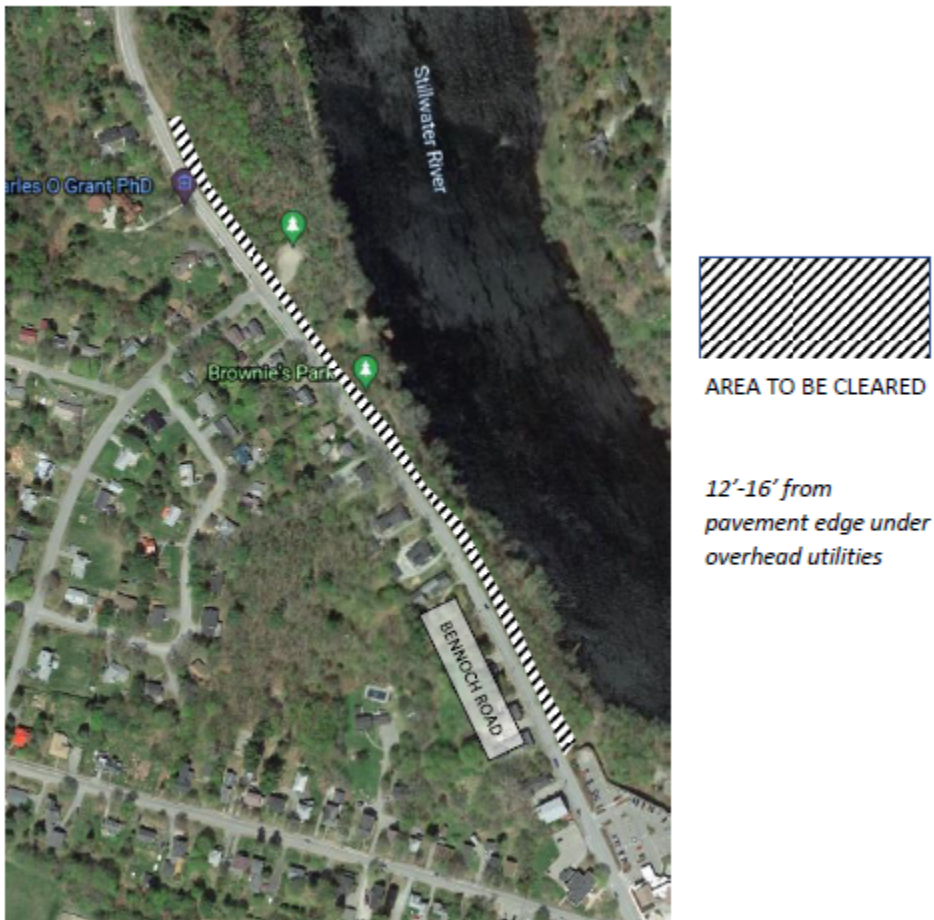
Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Ward
Executive Assistant

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Bennoch Road Roadside Clearing Project - The scope includes clearing dead wood and hazard trees from the roadside that are growing under and into the communication lines and hanging out over the road. All of the work will be done on the river side of the road. Larger healthy trees will not be removed, but may be pruned to mitigate utility conflicts. Healthy vegetation on the embankment will be left to ensure continued stability of the slope.



Public Works staff will remove and chip anything that can be reached safely from the ground. This will include much of the deadwood that has fallen or broken off and smaller brush that is within the 12'-16' clearing area under the wires and a contractor will finish the work, removing and pruning trees that require an aerial lift.