

**Town of Harvard**

**Agenda: Elm Commission Zoom Meeting; April 19 at 7:30 PM**

*Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, An Act Relative to Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency and signed into law on June 16, 2021, this meeting will be conducted via remote participation. Interested individuals can listen in and participate by phone and/or online by following the link and phone number below.*

Hildreth Pro is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81233689667?pwd=ekZtZFN2RVNJJaGNtNjVXTHVUczVuQT09>

**Meeting ID: 812 3368 9667**

**Passcode: 661821**

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**Meeting ID: 812 3368 9667**

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81233689667>

**Review Potential Actions**

**Potential Actions / Discussion:**

1. Review elm fungicide injection present plan (June injection estimate is \$3,300 for tree #s 8, 26, 32, 39 and 44).
2. Plan to not purchase trees in tubes for first grade tree planting. Need to discuss.
3. Plan to replace a number of trees that were planted (died or struggling). We need to make every effort to get good quality native stock if at all possible. Current cultivar and location are:
  - a. Bi-color white oak on right side of library entrance (first grade tree planting—date TBD).
  - b. White oak next to big rock
  - c. Columnar oak in Bromfield parking lot
  - d. Sugar maple at DPW field (the southern tree of five planted)
4. Now that the original Phair Elm is down, review logistics behind moving the “Phair rock memorial” next to the replacement Princeton Elm on the same Common. Want to get permission from stakeholders to have Phair rock memorial be installed so that it is flush to the ground—expect Park&Rec and/or Select Board will need to review and approve.
5. Based on above planned expenditures, determine sources of funding (Forestry budget vs HTF).
6. Tom Garfield good to go for tree watering this season?
7. Mark Sevigny good to go for watering around Townhall?
8. How are new plantings at HES getting watered?
9. Other items that attendees would like to discuss

**For Reference Pre-Covid Shutdown:**

**Minutes Elm Commission Meeting; March, 8 2020 at 7:30 PM; location at Hildreth House**

Attendees: JC Ferguson, Mario Cardenas and Bill Calderwood

Potential Actions / Discussion:

10. Review elm fungicide injection past and present plan (June injection estimate is \$4,089 with an option for an additional basal drench treatment for \$500). As S4 was removed in 2019, the elm injection cost for 2020 is actually \$3,609 (9, 17, 25, 40, S7 and S8). The Forestry budget will pay for the injections and the Harvard Tree Fund (HTF) will pay for the basal drench treatment (26, S7 and S8).
11. Review estimates for old elm pruning to take place in March. One quote was \$4,340 for 4 trees and another quote was \$3,000 for 9 trees. It was agreed by all that with proper supervision, the lower cost quote was the right way to go. Bill walked all 9 trees with both contractors and the lower cost quote from H. M. Flagg will be complete by the end of March. HTF will be the source of payment. H.M Flagg is in the vendor system. Bill asked for the latest proof of insurance.
12. Review soil sample results from 2019, determine amount of lime needed for each location and see if DPW can order, store and distribute lime. Three samples were obtained and analyzed by Matt Shields (no charge for data in separate attached file). The front of the library, the Little Common and the main Common need lime (pelletized-- 40 pounds per 1000sf once this year and a repeat application in the fall or 2021 spring). The Little Common was found to have high levels of sodium (road salt on Fairbank?). Bill will discuss with Tim Kilhart and Tim Bragan. Any lime or fertilization is planned to be paid for by the HTF gift fund.
13. Review logistics behind removing the Phair Elm (#3) and moving the "Phair rock memorial" next to the replacement Princeton Elm on the same Common. Want to get permission from stakeholders to have Phair rock memorial be installed so that it is flush to the ground—expect to move rock prior to tree removal with volunteers / DPW. JC plans to take #3 down, but Bill will verify who stakeholders are and get input from them in regards to moving the Phair rock memorial prior to removing #3. JC will coordinate removal of #3 and stump grinding. Bill will coordinate management of the Phair memorial stone. The memorial may need a footing for longevity so DPW heavy equipment might be very helpful to dig a hole and establish a new footing.
14. Based on above planned expenditures, determine sources of funding (Forestry budget vs HTF). See above
15. Likely will need to replace the white oak already re-planted near the "big rock"—suggest scarlet red oak as new replacement. This should be a no charge item. The first grade tree plantings will be delayed until after the elementary school construction is complete.
16. Tom Garfield good to go for tree watering this season? Tom has signed up for another season (thanks!).
17. Discuss funding vs budget for June 2020 –June 2021 from Forestry Budget (more pruning of old Elms- #44 will need a lane closure on 110 near the Catholic church). With tree take downs needing to increase over time (roadside safety, MGL87, lack of funding in the past and heat / drought stress), the Tree Warden has requested and the Elm Commission supports a 10% increase to the Forestry budget each year.