

6/28/2025

**Village of Mamaroneck Tree Committee  
2 July 2025 Agenda**

**\*DRAFT Minutes of 4 June 2025** (*Attachment 1*)

**\*Comments from Residents** (*Please limit in-person comments to 3 minutes*)

**\*Correspondence**

- 122 Wagner (*Attachment 2*)

**\*Old Business**

Maintenance

Tree Law

- Planting beyond the Right of Way (BROW) (*Attachment 3*)
- Comments to Planning Board regarding relationship between Tree Law and Planning Board will have to be a letter

New Trees

- Leftover spring trees were planted as requested after all
- Some spring trees are struggling (badly); gator bags on order but have not arrived, Parks is watering by hand

Heritage Trees

- 2025 Heritage Tree Hunt has been announced

Boston Post Road Complete Streets –

- Leslie, Sara, Beverley attended Open House Thursday June 5, 5-7:00
- There will be three subsequent Open Houses as plans progress

Public Education

- “Benefits of Planting Trees” flyer draft, update?

Federated Conservationists of Westchester

- Tree Committee membership approved?
- Beverley attended FCWC annual meeting
- Grant writing consultation offer (*Attachment 4*)

**\* New Business**

- Bird Sanctuary maintenance project (carryover from 6/4) (*Attachment 5*) Needs vote.

### **\* Other Business**

### **\*Calendar Notes**

- July 2, 2025, next meeting
- July 20, 2025, CFTE event
- Oct 8, 2025, rescheduled, next meeting?

**Attachment 1**  
**Village of Mamaroneck Tree Committee**  
**June 4, 2025 Agenda**

**Time Start:** 7:48 **Time End:** 8:54

**Members:** Beverley, Lillia,  
Ellen, Sara and Leslie

**Approval of minutes:**

- April minutes, updated with Sal's address 941 Shore Acres Drive and approved
- May minutes, approved.

**Comments by Residents:** None

**Old Business:**

- 308 Melbourne – Carlo Rea got another arborist report, it confirms that we need to prune but it is not danger.
- Across the street, there was a tree on Dr. Levington's private property and it was taken down without a permit by ConEd. Per Ellen, ConEd does not need permits.
- Follow-up on tree law requirements, Karel Engelen
- Discussion on excess trees from the spring – Florence Park and bird sanctuary.
- Heritage tree hunt – sent to Sally but not sent to village yet.
- Tree law relationship with Planning Board – how does the tree law's three-year limit to removing three protected trees work with approval of building projects that take down many, many trees?
- Complete Streets meeting tomorrow 6/5 in MHS 5-7pm ; Leslie, Sara and Beverly will be in attendance.  
County awarded \$15 million in grants to VOM for Complete Streets other than Boston Post Road project; applications will be 50/50. How can street trees play a part in creating a shaded, walkable, bikeable community?

**New Business:**

- Discussed the google form for tree requests – who will be admin of the list? How can we connect this to the Village? When we talk to Sally we will place it on the "Benefits of Trees" flyer.
- FCWC would we be interested in Streetscaping webinar? They can help with grant applications for street trees. We will pursue.

**Action Items:**

- Add to Maintenance Google Doc and make sure to CC Dennis on monthly or as needed – ideally after tree meeting
- Beverly will follow up with Dennis Delgado ask about protection when construction is going on.
- Beverly to follow up with Sally about Heritage Tree Hunt
- Can tree committee members go to a planning board meeting to discuss the tree law and how it relates.
- Create a summary of tree law to share at planning board
- Leslie will reach out to Sally about the google form
- Leslie will edit google form – "seasonal" not fall

**Attachment 2**  
**Tree Removal Re: 122 Wagner Avenue, Mamaroneck 10543**

Hi Jackie,

The correspondence was included in our 9/4/2024 agenda as attachment 5. We attach documents to the agenda as backup for discussion, but don't include them in the minutes. You can find the meeting agenda on the VOM website.

Neither the agenda nor the minutes for July include this correspondence. It was taken up in September.

Unfortunately, I was quite ill at that time and didn't attend the September meeting. I've been given notes from that meeting but no one seems to have written them up as minutes. I'll take a look at the notes (I need to file minutes anyway) and see what discussion there may have been.

At any rate, your correspondence was not stripped from either the committee's agenda or its minutes. It was taken up in September, documented on the agenda, and is still on the record.

Best wishes,  
Beverley Sherrid  
Chairman, VOM Tree Committee

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**From:** Jacqueline Caldwell <jmcaldwell2013@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 3, 2025 6:38 PM  
**To:** Beverley Sherrid <BSherid@vomny.net>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Tree Removal Re: 122 Wagner Avenue, Mamaroneck 10543

Hello Beverly,

I hope all is well.

I am reaching out to you regarding the emails below from last July, which was recorded on the July 10, 2024 Tree Committee Minutes. I see that the email history was removed from those minutes, including any mention of this event happening. I'm curious how that history was removed from the minutes, when it was there last year. Can you please provide some explanation for this? I'd also appreciate having the original minutes as we are moving forward with our legal claim against our neighbors.

Many thanks,  
Jackie

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Jacqueline Caldwell <[jmcaldwell2013@gmail.com](mailto:jmcaldwell2013@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Tree Removal Re: 122 Wagner Avenue, Mamaroneck 10543

**Date:** July 10, 2024 at 8:55:53 PM EDT

**To:** James Barney <[jbarney@vomny.org](mailto:jbarney@vomny.org)>

**Cc:** Beverley Sherrid <[BSherrid@vomny.net](mailto:BSherrid@vomny.net)>, Michelle Goodman <[mgoodman@vomny.net](mailto:mgoodman@vomny.net)>, Sara Mignano <[smignano@vomny.net](mailto:smignano@vomny.net)>, "Koller, Gail" <[gkoller@vomny.net](mailto:gkoller@vomny.net)>, "Zoland, Wendy" <[wzoland@vomny.net](mailto:wzoland@vomny.net)>, "ldries@vomny.net" <[ldries@vomny.net](mailto:ldries@vomny.net)>, "Star, Marlene" <[mstar@vomny.net](mailto:mstar@vomny.net)>

Thank you James for responding. Yes, this has caused quite a dispute/ legal issue as the tree is (was) clearly on our property. To grant removal of this tree simply to appease the owners of 122 Wagner Avenue has caused a dispute and has disregarded our rights as dual owners of this tree. And on the subject of the rock wall, that is our property behind the fence. I am assuming that this removal was also approved without the review of land surveys? After speaking with their contractor, they plan to plant trees where the rock wall now stands, thus on our property, which I'm sure was a large reason to remove that tree. For background, the owners had to sign a legal document when they purchased their home, which Mara Souther confirmed with me in a past discussion, that forbids them from altering or using any portion of this land behind our fence. Can you confirm that the rock wall removal was in fact approved without survey review?

Also, please confirm the VOM's law regarding how close to a neighbors property line trees can be planted.

Thank you,  
Jackie Caldwell

On Jul 10, 2024, at 8:44 AM, James Barney <[jbarney@vomny.org](mailto:jbarney@vomny.org)> wrote:

Good Morning Ms. Caldwell,

I apologize for not getting back to you yesterday but we have been busy working on pedestrian safety issues out in the field and other DPW tasks.

An application for removal was submitted by the owner of 122 Wagner Avenue. I reviewed the application and visited the site, as well as spoke with a male party that represented himself as the owner(he did come out from inside the house when I rang the bell).

The removal application has a section for adjacent/affected parties for the applicant to disclose. This section was left blank and during our discussion on site, the male mentioned several times leveling the yard and removing the rock walls and adjusting the landscape for the safety of his child. All of which started with removing the tree. Through the entire process the owner

represented as having ownership of the tree. The Village GIS also shows the property line being on the "123 Carroll avenue" side of the tree, further making his case believable. Surveys are not a requirement of the application process.

The removal was granted based on the proximity to the shed, rear of house and the root system of the tree being partially exposed with no room to expand on the house side due to a drop in grade and a wall. These items created a risk factor and target area that the owner of 122 Wagner was not willing to accept.

I apologize for the discrepancy this has caused over ownership and removal of the tree, however, at this time this is a neighbor/property dispute issue. There is not much DPW can do about this.

Thanks,

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**From:** Jacqueline Caldwell <[jmcaldwell2013@gmail.com](mailto:jmcaldwell2013@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 10, 2024 7:42 AM

**To:** Beverley Sherrid <[BSherrid@vomny.net](mailto:BSherrid@vomny.net)>

**Cc:** James Barney <[jbarney@vomny.org](mailto:jbarney@vomny.org)>; Michelle Goodman <[mgoodman@vomny.net](mailto:mgoodman@vomny.net)>; Sara Mignano <[smignano@vomny.net](mailto:smignano@vomny.net)>; Koller, Gail <[gkoller@vomny.net](mailto:gkoller@vomny.net)>; Zoland, Wendy <[wzoland@vomny.net](mailto:wzoland@vomny.net)>; [ldries@vomny.net](mailto:ldries@vomny.net) <[ldries@vomny.net](mailto:ldries@vomny.net)>; Star, Marlene <[mstar@vomny.net](mailto:mstar@vomny.net)>

**Subject:** Re: Tree Removal Re: 122 Wagner Avenue, Mamaroneck 10543

Thank you Beverley for your quick response. I included you on this email as the Southers mentioned when we were addressing the tree coming down, that they received approval from the VOM Tree Committee. Appreciate you forwarding this on. I look forward to hearing from the Village Manager.

James, I have left a few messages with your office. The building dept. informed me that you approved this permit. I look forward to hearing from you as well.

Best,  
Jackie

On Jul 9, 2024, at 8:55 PM, Beverley Sherrid <[BSherrid@vomny.net](mailto:BSherrid@vomny.net)> wrote:

Hi Jackie,

I am so sorry about the loss of your tree.

I am forwarding your email to the Interim Village Manager. The Tree Committee does not have any information about the permit application. He will be able to provide an answer for you.

Sincerely yours,  
Beverley Sherrid  
Chairman, VOM Tree Committee

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**From:** Jacqueline Caldwell <[jmcaldwell2013@gmail.com](mailto:jmcaldwell2013@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 9, 2024 8:30 PM

**To:** James Barney <[jbarney@vomny.org](mailto:jbarney@vomny.org)>; Beverley Sherrid <[bsherrid@vomny.net](mailto:bsherrid@vomny.net)>; Michelle Goodman <[mgoodman@vomny.net](mailto:mgoodman@vomny.net)>; Sara Mignano <[smignano@vomny.net](mailto:smignano@vomny.net)>; Koller, Gail <[gkoller@vomny.net](mailto:gkoller@vomny.net)>; Zoland, Wendy <[wzoland@vomny.net](mailto:wzoland@vomny.net)>; [ldries@vomny.net](mailto:ldries@vomny.net) <[ldries@vomny.net](mailto:ldries@vomny.net)>; Star, Marlene <[mstar@vomny.net](mailto:mstar@vomny.net)>

**Subject:** Tree Removal Re: 122 Wagner Avenue, Mamaroneck 10543

Hello James and Members of the Tree Committee -

I am reaching out in regards to a tree removal permit that was approved for 122 Wagner Avenue, Mamaroneck. The tree that was cut down was also on our property, 123 Carroll Avenue, Mamaroneck. The owners, Mara and Chris Souther never contacted us for consent to remove the tree or gave us any notice that the tree was being taken down. The tree was healthy, with no disease or falling branches. It provided all of the shade in our yard. Our fence was also boxed around the tree, and now the boxed area of our fence needs to be removed and rebuilt. I will also point out that our fence is within our property line.

Can you please tell me your process for approving these permit requests? Did anyone come look at this tree to confirm that it indeed 100% belonged to the permit applicants? As you can see from the attached photo, it clearly is on our property as well. To legally obtain a Village of Mamaroneck tree removal permit, they should have obtained our permission and signature for the application to approve this tree removal as the application clearly states, "for activities that include proposed removal of tree(s) that straddle a property line, the signature from the adjacent/affected property owner acknowledging the application for tree removal(s) shall be included below."

We did contact the owners immediately when we saw the tree being taken down and they refused to stop.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Best,  
Jackie Caldwell  
(917) 902-5892

**Attachment 3**  
**Planting Beyond the Right of Way**

Hello all,

Apologies, I missed this email thread until just now, when I'm beginning the agenda for Wednesday's meeting.

The Tree Law, 318-7 E, allows the planting of Village trees on private property when it will serve our purposes and provide the benefits of trees that would not otherwise be available:

*The Board of Trustees may authorize the planting of a tree on private property at the expense of the Village upon obtaining the consent of the property owner and determining that the planting of the tree will serve the purposes and provide the benefits of trees identified in this chapter. The property owner must execute an agreement, acceptable in form to the Village Attorney, acknowledging that the tree, once planted, is the responsibility of the property owner.*

This section, which is supported by NYS case law, was included because the Village has many streets and neighborhood without right of way space to accommodate mature trees; private property is the only space available.

When the Tree Committee recommends these BROW (Beyond the Right Of Way) locations, we consider all the benefits included in the Purpose of the Tree Law, among them heat mitigation, pollution reduction, flood water mitigation, and erosion control, among others. We're also cognizant how low the VOM canopy cover (about 24%) is compared to the 40% scientists say is needed to receive full benefits from the combination of public and private trees.

We are very conscious of the risk of landscaping for private property owners and try to avoid that abuse. We have recommended very few trees for BROW planting since the new law went into effect. In some neighborhoods with almost no cover, however, frequently those with lower income residents, we wish more property owners would accept the offer of trees.

Sincerely yours,  
Beverley Sherrid  
Chairman, VOM Tree Committee

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Good Morning Sally,



We will make sure to clarify that it is for the right away and will also make sure in the approval process we are mindful of the concerns Jeff.

Thank you for gathering that feedback,

Leslie

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Leslie Lam

TreeCom  
Please see below. Thank you.

Sally J. Roberts

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**From:** Kathleen Gill <KGill@vomny.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 9, 2025 10:30 AM  
**To:** Sally Roberts <sroberts@vomny.org>; Dennis Delborgo <DDelborgo@vomny.org>  
**Cc:** Jeff Ahne <jahne@vomny.org>; Courtney Wong <cwong@vomny.org>; Elena Decunzo <edecunzo@vomny.org>  
**Subject:** Re: Community Input on Tree Planting Locations

I agree - right of way only

**Kathleen Gill**  
Village Manager

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**From:** Sally Roberts <sroberts@vomny.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 6, 2025 9:45 AM  
**To:** Kathleen Gill <KGill@vomny.org>; Dennis Delborgo <DDelborgo@vomny.org>  
**Cc:** Jeff Ahne <jahne@vomny.org>; Courtney Wong <cwong@vomny.org>; Elena Decunzo <edecunzo@vomny.org>  
**Subject:** FW: Community Input on Tree Planting Locations

Please see below and let me know.

Sally J. Roberts

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**From:** Jeff Ahne <jahne@vomny.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 6, 2025 7:10 AM  
**To:** Sally Roberts <sroberts@vomny.org>

**Cc:** James Barney <jbarney@vomny.org>; Elena Decunzo <edecunzo@vomny.org>

**Subject:** Re: Community Input on Tree Planting Locations

I like the idea but we have to put limits on it. Otherwise the village is going to become a personal tree planting service of private property. It should be for right of ways only not residents properties

Sent from my iPhone

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On Jun 5, 2025, at 11:45 AM, Sally Roberts <[sroberts@vomny.org](mailto:sroberts@vomny.org)> wrote:

Hi. Before sending this to Kathleen, do you have any thoughts? Thanks.

Sally J. Roberts

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**From:** Leslie Lam <[llam@vomny.net](mailto:llam@vomny.net)>

**Sent:** Thursday, June 5, 2025 10:25 AM

**To:** Sally Roberts <[sroberts@vomny.org](mailto:sroberts@vomny.org)>

**Cc:** Beverley Sherrid <[BSherrid@vomny.net](mailto:BSherrid@vomny.net)>

**Subject:** Community Input on Tree Planting Locations

Leslie Lam

Sally Roberts

Beverley Sherrid

Hi Sally,

My name is Leslie, and I'm a member of the Tree Committee. We've been talking about ways to engage the community more actively in helping us grow our tree canopy. Right now, our process for selecting planting locations is based mostly on our own observations and occasional requests from residents. We'd like to create a more consistent way for people to share suggestions—so we're proposing a simple Google Form that community members can use to identify locations they think would benefit from a tree.

Committee members would be responsible for maintaining the form and managing the responses.

I'm including the link here for your review. Please let us know if you have any thoughts or concerns. If you think it will work, we can talk more on where we might be able to share it or post.

Thanks so much!

Leslie

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScAcNDd3AplpK9efRFqMu2q6M-4vf8U5KsT47Nlym6LQ0gK8Q/viewform?usp=header>



The screenshot shows the header section of a Google Form titled "Village of Mamaroneck - Tree Request". The form has a light purple background. The title is in bold. Below the title is a sub-header "Help Us Grow Our Tree Canopy!". The main text describes the benefits of trees and the Village's goal to expand its tree canopy. It mentions that the Tree Committee and Parks Department will review suggested sites. A red asterisk indicates a required question. The first question is "What is your name? Email and last".

**Village of Mamaroneck - Tree Request**

**Help Us Grow Our Tree Canopy!**

Trees are a tremendous asset to our community. They reduce flooding, improve air quality, provide shade, support mental health, and enhance the beauty of our village.

The Village is always looking for ways to expand our tree canopy. If you notice a spot on your block or in your neighborhood that could benefit from a new tree, let us know! Let's work together to keep our community green, healthy, and beautiful.

The Tree Committee and Parks Department will review suggested sites. If your location is eligible, we'll collaborate with you to choose a tree that's a good fit—and add it to our seasonal planting list as part of our ongoing efforts to strengthen the village canopy.

\* Indicates required question

What is your name? Email and last \*

## Village of Mamaroneck - Tree Request

Help Us Grow Our Tree Canopy!

Trees are a tremendous asset to our community. They reduce flooding, improve air quality, provide shade, support mental health, and enhance the beauty of our village. The Village is always looking for ways to expand our tree canopy. If you notice a spot on your block or in your neighborhood that could benefit from a new tree, let us know! Let's work together to keep our community green, healthy, and beautiful. The Tree Committee and Parks Department will review suggested sites. If your location is eligible, we'll collaborate with you to choose a tree that's a good fit—and add it to our seasonal planting list as part of our ongoing efforts to strengthen the village canopy.

docs.google.com

Attachment 4  
FCWC re Tree Planting Grantwriting

Hi Gail and Beverley,

Hoping all is well with you. Following up on our recent Streetscaping webinar, I am reaching out to gauge your interest in a tree planting project that FCWC can assist Mamaroneck with. Through our streetscaping program, we can provide guidance through a state Environmental Facilities Corporation Green Resiliency Grant opportunity with the help of retired DEC forester George Profous.

Would you like to learn more about this opportunity, or is there a municipal official you can lead me to for that conversation?

Also, please consider joining us at the upcoming FCWC Annual Meeting at Lasdon Park on June 12. I am attaching the invitation.

Thanks,  
Brendan

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Brendan McNamara  
Community Engagement  
Federated Conservationists of Westchester County  
<mailto:brendan@fcwc.org>  
<http://www.fcwc.org/membership>  
Consider being a member!

**Attachment 5**  
**Bird Sanctuary Maintenance**

Hi Jeff,

Leslie Lam (Tree Committee) and I were recently in conversation with Marc Radulovic, who lives on Shore Acres Drive across from the Bird Sanctuary.

He expressed some of the frustrations we often hear from residents on that street about the conditions there. Leslie and I repeated the point that it's a bird sanctuary, not a park, but we did agree that some of the issues could be addressed to the benefit of both residents and wildlife. Here are our thoughts and recommendations:

- Invasive vines are choking and killing trees. An effective and fast solution would be cutting the vines near ground level, rather than the perfect solution of digging them out. This is a huge job and it would demand an enormous (and probably not possible) amount of time for your staff. As an alternative, I think we could muster a volunteer corps next fall to take it on, if you would consider that possibility.
- Mowing and maintaining a 6' shoulder from the start of Shore Acres Drive at The Parkway to the South Barry intersection (stopping at the private property on the corner) would improve both the appearance and pedestrian safety and visibility of the sanctuary. Currently there's a shoulder along some portions but it's uneven and occasionally disappears altogether.
- Digging out the invasive plants such as mugwort in the shoulder would benefit everyone. I'm thinking it would be good to replace them with a native sedge that would have deep roots to stabilize the soil, reduce erosion, and absorb some of the excess rainfall (this street is prone to flooding). Many sedges spread and would fill in after planting, so the invasives would have a harder time re-establishing. Sedges can be walked on and, if necessary, mown.

Thanks for considering these ideas. We'd appreciate a chance to talk about them.

Beverley

