

**Town of Newport, NH**  
**Newport Conservation Commission**  
**Minutes of August 18, 2021**  
**5:00 PM**  
**Newport Town Common**  
**1 North Main Street**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ken Dennis, Acting Chairman; Linda Dennis, Vice Chairman; Donald Schagen, Jesse Johnson and Herbert Tellor, Jr. BOS Representative

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Clifford Richer, Alternate

**STAFF PRESENT:** Christina Donovan, Planning and Zoning Administrator

**COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT:** none

**GUEST SPEAKER:** Gwyn Gallagher, Arborist; ISI Certified Arborist

**VIDEOGRAPHER:** John Lunn, Executive Director NCTV

Acting Chairman Ken Dennis called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. followed by a roll call of members present and the Pledge of Allegiance. He then introduced Mr. Gwyn Gallagher

**MINUTES:** July 14, 2021

On a motion by Mrs. Dennis, seconded by Mr. Tellor; *the Commission voted to defer the minutes of the July 14, 2021 meeting to September 15, 2021. The motion passed 5-0-0.*

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Reorganization of the Commission

On a motion by Mrs. Dennis, seconded by Mr. Tellor; *the Commission deferred the election of Chairman and Vice Chairman to the September 15, 2021 Conservation Commission meeting. The motion passed 5-0-0.*

Gwyn Gallagher-Arborist-Review of Town Common Trees and their Condition

Mr. Gallagher and the Commissioners inspected each of the trees located on the Common. They discussed the type of tree, condition of the tree and the proposed work that is currently in the Common's Tree Management Program.

Of the 30 trees inspected on the Common, each one will be pruned to some extent in 2021.

Mr. Gallagher pointed out the two trees that will benefit from cabling (to extend their life).

Of the six trees originally proposed to be removed, an additional one (7th) was located in the walkabout the Common by the Commissioners (proposed removal schedule; 3 in 2021; 3 in 2022).

The Commissioners and Mr. Gallagher reviewed the Tree Management Program work schedule:

- 1) Mr. Gallagher and crew will do all the trimming (2021-and on).
- 2) The Conservation Commission would choose the types of trees for replacement.
- 3) Throughout the spring and summer 2022 Mr. Gallagher's company will remove identified trees and plant, water and care for the new trees.
- 4) In the late fall 2021 Mr. Gallagher's company will start the fertilization (root zone injections).

Discussion was held on whether to:

- ❖ Spend money on root injections for trees that will die within the next 5 years.
- ❖ How to aesthetically change the area behind the gazebo after the Blue Spruce is removed
- ❖ A general discussion on future maintenance of the trees.
- ❖ Practices the Town could do to mitigate the runoff from Park Street as well as other mitigation to ensure healthier trees on the Common

Mr. Gallagher and Mr. Johnson explained the types of trees which would benefit the Common:

- 1) trees that will have easy maintenance
- 2) be aesthetically pleasing
- 3) provide shade
- 4) be hardy to the elements
- 5) withstand (minor) abuse.
- 6) Native species

Mr. Gallagher invited the Commissioners to the New Hampshire Arborists Association Annual Meeting at the Grappone Center in Concord, NH on September 17, 2021. Tickets are available online. Mr. Johnson, Commissioner; stated he already had his ticket and would be going to the meeting.

**ADMINISTRATION:** none

On a motion by Mr. Tellor, seconded by Mrs. Dennis; *the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:26 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Maura Stetson

Scribe

Approved: September XX, 2021