



Pursuant to a notice duly filed with the Town Clerk of Concord, a hybrid meeting of the Permanent Memorial Subcommittee of the Concord250 Executive Committee was held in the Trustees Room in the Concord Free Public Library on May 24, 2023.

Members Present: Gary Clayton, Christa Collins, Nancy Koehn, Polly Reeve, Tooley Rogers and guest Brian Rosborough **On Zoom:** Joe Palumbo;

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:34 AM; a quorum being present.

Minutes of the May 10, 2023 subcommittee meeting were reviewed and adopted.

Committee members then presented quick introductions as a guest was present

2) 250 Commemorative Tree Planting Initiative

Christa provided members with a prospectus (Attachment 1 below). She is establishing a Working Group with Aaron Miklosko of Concord Public Works. The existing tree expense is \$1,600/tree at 2-3 1/2" diameter, which also provides for 2 years of watering and care. We need to refine these numbers, but any initiative to plant 150-250 trees will be in the six figures.

Gary and Christa recently met with Kerry Lafleur, Town Manager, who stated that she is prepared to allocate \$125,000 in the Town's FY 2025 capital budget. **This may** be matched by an equivalent amount from the Community Preservation Fund (CPC). The application deadline for CPC funding allocations in FY 2025 is mid-September, 2023.

Gary outlined next steps to keep us "moving along" with this initiative:

- 1) Complete a prospectus for this initiative;
- 2) Deadline of mid-September to file an application with the CPC for funding;
- 3) Develop an RFP for contractual services with the Working Group;
- 4) Develop a marketing and public communication plan;
- 5) Inform the Concord250th Executive Committee;
- 6) Seek private funding.

Brian Rosborough, spoke of 1) the private company, Iron Tree, which might donate a crane to plant a large Liberty Tree; and 2) Peter Del Tredici, former Mount Auburn Cemetery chief arborist, who could speak to the importance of planting trees.

Brian stated that he would be a good speaker at a public forum, as he would get people interested in trees. Gary thought this might be an event for Arbor Day, 2024. Brian said he would be willing to host such an event.

Parcel 1693

It was agreed that a future plan for the use of Parcel 1693 requires professional assistance in developing a conceptual design for this parcel. Gary spoke with Joe Hibbard of Sasaki Associates, who stated that a conceptual design will cost \$75,000. Gary talked with the Town Manager about this need and opportunity. She is willing to utilize remaining funds in the Town's FY 2023 budget to support this initiative provided an agreement can be confirmed with Sasaki Associates before the end of June.

Gary stated the emerging goals for establishing permanent memorials for commemorating the 250th are:

- 1) Planting 250 trees for a sustainable Concord;
- 2) Focusing on social justice by acknowledging the many people, **including people of color and women**, whose voices were loud, but often not carried forward in history, such as Ellen Garrison; and
- 3) Acknowledging the military service of Concord men and women since the beginning of the American Revolution.

There is also the need to develop some form of marketing plan for the Subcommittee's initiatives. Another task is to prepare for the June 29 evening meeting/presentation to the Concord250 Executive Committee.

The Permanent Memorial Subcommittee future meetings:

June 14 - 9:30 - 11:00 AM	Trustees Room Concord Free Public Library
June 28 - 9:30 - 11:00 AM	Trustees Room Concord Free Public Library
June 29 - 7:00 - 8:00 PM	Conord250 Committee

Meeting adjourned at 11:11 AM

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Tooey Rogers

Attachment 1 - 250 Trees Planting Initiative Prospectus

250 TREES FOR THE 250TH PROSPECTUS

Draft 5/17/2023 - Christa

As we consider appropriate ways of commemorating the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Concord and Lexington, we have an opportunity to pause and look not only back, but forward: what do we want Concord to be 250 years from now? We are at an ecological inflection point, locally and globally, as we seek ways to mitigate and adapt to the climate crisis. What better way to mark the 250th than with a living monument, the planting of 250 trees?

Trees are a critical part of Concord's natural ecosystem, scenic beauty, cultural heritage, and economic sustainability. Concord Public Works (CPW) currently plants 80-100 trees per year, and the 250 trees initiative seeks to augment that number beginning in FY '25, as well as to begin immediately to highlight the importance of Concord's tree canopy and build support for more sustained funding for tree planting and maintenance into the future. Species planted will be native to the region and consistent with species identified in CPW's tree planting guide. Most importantly, a 250 trees initiative supports the Town's sustainability goals and recommendations of the 2017 Concord Tree Management Plan in an era of rapid climate change.

A working group led by Concord's Tree Warden and consisting of representatives from the School Department, Natural Resources, Parks & Recreation, and citizen volunteers will convene to identify potential tree planting locations, including within the public right of way, and on Town-owned and private properties where appropriate. Members of the working group will further visit and assess identified sites to ensure they are free of constraints that would impede tree planting or result in a failure of planted trees to survive and thrive. CPW will continue to implement its current tree planting program, while the additional planting and maintenance load will be contracted out.

A single "Liberty Tree" may be considered for planting in a prominent location. This tree would be representative of the entire tree planting effort, and could be substantially larger than the majority of trees planted elsewhere.

The citizen representatives will be responsible for liaising with the Concord250 Permanent Memorials Subcommittee, conducting outreach and advocacy around the appropriation of public funds, such as the Town annual budget, Community Preservation funds, and the CMS building budget, to support the initiative, and coordinating a private fundraising campaign to support this effort. The citizen representatives will also work with the Subcommittee to document and catalog the plantings, planting activities, and publicity.

Work Plan and Timeline:

- June 2023: Establish and convene working group
- June - August 2023: Working group defines the details of its scope of work
- August - November 2023: Identify and assess potential planting sites
- Fall 2023: Hire contractor, apply to CPC for funding
- December 2023 - July 2025: Public Communications
- December 2023 - Spring 2024: Fundraising
- Spring 2024-Fall 2025: Plant trees (three seasons)