

Town of Montreat
Tree Board
April 8, 2025 9:00 AM
Montreat Town Hall

Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM. A quorum was present.

Present. Ed Kramer, Chair; Tyler Smith, Vice Chair; Brad Hestir, Secretary; Ann Vinson, At large Member; Elizabeth Hamilton, Member at Large
Absent: Mason Blake, commissioner representative was absent due to a family emergency. George Sawyer - Reason Known to chair, but not stated.

Moment of Silence

Adoption of Today's Agenda – moved and approved

Approval of Minutes – March 11

Public Comments -

Reports

Ann Hamilton reported on progress with the Hemlock initiative.

- Last year the conference center treated 80 trees on their campus. Further treatments are not planned at this time. On April 10, representatives from the Hemlock Restoration Initiative will come to Montreat to identify trees and tag them for future treatment. Funds for treatment current stands at about \$1300 at this time.

Ann Vinson spoke about developing plans for Arbor Day. There will be tables at Post Office with information about various tree-related issues, in particular, due to a recent flooding event an emphasis on stream management. She is planning on maintaining a presence at the Post Office April 21 through the 25th.

A goal is to have a presence at Cottagers assoc. Meeting in the fall. Ann also emphasized the need to track volunteer hours. She will look for, or develop, a form for tracking volunteers.

Ed Kramer reported on Commissioners decision to deny a request to close right of

way. The tree Board had discussed the issue and at the Commissioners meeting Commissioner Blake included Tree Board Comments when he spoke on the matter.

Tyler Smith spoke about planning to evaluate the condition of trees in Town Right of way by identifying trees that fail to thrive in the spring. This will facilitate Town staff knowing what trees may need to be removed.

As new business, Brad Hestir presented ideas for building interest in the community for Chestnut restoration. We would study town right of way to identify areas that would be good for planting trees and creating park areas featuring chestnuts.

Next Meeting May 13, 2025 9:00 AM.

Respectfully Submitted
Brad Hestir.