

**Town of Bath Tree Board Minutes
February 18, 2026**

The Tree Board convened at 5:00PM. Board members present were Craig Deane, Kate Lehman, Cathy Roberts and Andy Swaim.

Review of the Minutes: The minutes of the January 21, 2026, meeting were reviewed and approved by common consent.

Persons before the Tree Board: Attending the meeting were Gail Potter, representing DAR, and Rebecca McLeod, representing the Warm Springs Watershed Association.

Gail Potter: Mrs. Potter told of DAR's efforts to clean up and maintain the English Cemetery. With the help of grants, donations, and volunteer labor, much has been accomplished. With \$500 left in their treasury, DAR seeks advice as to what kind of trees and shrubs they could buy to provide a buffer between the cemetery and the neighbor's property. Tree Steward Deane agreed to provide his expertise and advise them in this matter.

Rebecca MacLeod: Ms. MacLeod requested a letter of support from the Tree Board for WSWA's application for a grant to reforest land along the bypass. Out of 136 total acres, about 40% will be reforested. Board member Andy Swaim will provide a letter to WSWA.

Community Tree Grant 2025: There is still about \$5,000 to be spent. It was decided to solicit an estimate from Bartlett's for enriching the soil at the German Cemetery.

Demonstration City Grant 2025: It is time to order the trees that will be planted on Wilkes Street in the spring and late summer.

Mulching at Greenway: Board member Lehman will request that a work order be issued for the Town's public works crew to spread the mulch deposited at Greenway.

Tree City Application: The application has been approved at the State level and has been passed on to the Arbor Day Foundation.

Independence Street Construction/Trees: The future of Streetscapes construction on Wilkes Street is unknown currently. Removal of the recently planted trees should be done now, if at all, given the uncertainty of when construction is. The trees can be moved to the Depot lot until a permanent planting location is determined.

*Approved by common consent
3-18-26 Andy Swaim*

250 Trees for 250 Years; The Tree Board will endorse Cacapon Institute's program to plant 250 trees for the 250th anniversary of our country.

Hotel/Motel Application: The deadline is February 27, 2026. Board member Roberts has agreed to submit an application before this date.

Treasurer's Report: During the past month, the Tree Board account has had 3 credits and 3 debits. The credits include:

\$8.23 in interest

600.00 from the town for its share of the tree removal at the English Cemetery.

22,039.66 in Community Tree Grant reimbursement.

The debits include:

\$259.66 to Hunter's Hardware for wire and posts for cages

117.25 for bank checks.

21,000.00 to reimburse the town's General Fund for loans made to fund the Community Tree Grant purchases.

The current balance of the Tree Board account is \$1938.86.

The next meeting of the Tree Board is March 18, 2026.

The meeting adjourned at 6:15.

Minutes submitted by Andy Swaim, Tree Board member