

Minutes of the Woodstock Tree Committee Meeting

January 12, 2026

Present: Michael, Gay, Linda, Carol

Agenda

Election

DOT update

Election

We will have a yearly vote for chairperson, secretary and treasurer. There will be a 4 year term for all members who can then opt to continue. Gay said that the Chairperson should spread out the responsibilities. Carol agreed. Gay then resigned from the Tree Committee in order to work on the Historical Society. She will still try to get younger people to be on the Tree Committee. She then left the meeting early. We all thank her for her many years of amazing service on the Tree Committee.

Carol volunteered to be co-chair with Michael. He wants to work on the DOT project primarily, since he is already heavily involved with it. Carol will run the meetings and work on other projects such as Arbor Day, Tree City, keeping Town Board informed, etc. She will delegate more responsibility to other committee members. Carol asked Linda to be the secretary. Linda accepted.

[Subsequent to this meeting, Cindy Muro also resigned from the committee, but has agreed to act as a consultant.] We also thank Cindy for all her plantings, knowledge and hands-on help throughout

the years.

D.O.T. project

Michael reported that Mark Kruk of the DOT can't get a straight answer from the Town of Woodstock as to the extent of the project in 2027. There will be a public Town Hall meeting with the DOT in the near future. The central issue to be resolved is that of a shared walking /bike path out to Bearsville. To create this path requires a eighteen foot widening of the road, which would necessitate cutting down almost 200 trees, many of which are protected under the Town Tree Law, and some of which we planted ourselves. Complete Streets wants to put this path on the south side of Route 212, which is in a flood plane. Any path should be put on the north side, where the electrical poles are. The existing trees hold water and protect the road from flooding. To remove them is inviting disaster. CS has acted on its own and has refused to share its mountain of files (they even crashed the town server) with anyone including us or the Environmental Commission. Michael has made a FOIL request to try to get these files. CS has spent \$67,000 to hire a consultant, Lindsay Zelting, and still has not come up with an acceptable plan.

Adjourned.