

WINDERMERE TREE BOARD
Chair: Vicki Hearst
Vice Chair: Olga Aleksandrova
Secretary: Elena LaRochelle
Treasurer: Joan Foglia
Cillian Ammar
Council Liaison: Brandi Haines

Agenda ***Agenda***

March 19, 2026
9:15 AM

COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM
614 MAIN STREET - BLDG. 100
WINDERMERE, FL 34786

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES

PLEASE NOTE: IN ACCORDANCE WITH F.S. 286.26: Person with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any such proceedings should contact the Office of the Clerk at least 48 hours beforehand at (407) 876-2563.

Pursuant to Resolution No. 2005-12 adopted on December 13, 2005, the following Civility Code shall govern all procedings before the Town of Windermere Windermere Tree Board:

1. All electronic devices, including cell phones, shall be either turned off or otherwise silenced.
2. Prolonged conversation shall be conducted outside Council meeting hall.
3. Whistling, heckling, gesturing, loud conversations, or other disruptive behavior is prohibited.
4. Only those individuals who have signed the speaker list and/or/who have been recognized by the Mayor (or Chair) may address comments to the Council.
5. Comments at public hearings shall be limited to the subject being considered by the Council
6. Comments at Open Forums shall be directed to Town issues.
7. All public comments shall avoid personal attacks and abusive language
8. No person attending a Windermere Tree Board meeting is to harass, annoy, or otherwise disturb any other person in the room.

Any member of the public whose behavior is disruptive and violates the Town of Windermere Civility Code is subject to removal from the Windermere Tree Board meeting by an officer and such other actions as may be appropriate. PLEASE NOTE: IN ACCORDANCE WITH F.S. 286.0105: Any person who desires to appeal any decision at this meeting will need a record of this proceeding. For this, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of such proceedings is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

AGENDA

- **THE MEETING IS CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIR**

1. OPEN FORUM / PUBLIC COMMENT (3-Minutes Limit)

2. OLD BUSINESS

a. Historic School House and Grove

i. Clean up.

ii. Freeze damage and recovery - Discussion on replacement of Avocados with cold tolerant Avocados and low chill Peaches.

b. Ward Trail updates.

c. Centennial map – subcommittee, will meet later this month.

d. Trees Florida Conference – June 1 to 3, 2026, Clearwater Beach, FL.

3. NEW BUSINESS

a. Approve Minutes (Attachments)

i. January 15, 2026

ii. February 19, 2026

b. Arbor Day 2027: January 23, 2027 – Discussion of tree varieties, with consideration to a mixture of trees that would provide for canopy, understory, flowering, fruiting, wet conditions, and natives (Attachments).

4. OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

a. Date and time for next meeting: April 16, 2026 - chair is unavailable.

5. ADJOURN

WINDERMERE TREE BOARD

Chair: Vicki Hearst
Vice Chair: Olga Aleksandrova
Secretary: Elena LaRochelle
Treasurer: Joan Foglia
Cillian Ammar

MINUTES ***MINUTES***

Council Liaison: Brandi Haines

January 15, 2026
9:15 AM

Remote location
Windermere Recreation Park
WINDERMERE, FL 34786

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES AND PAGERS

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Minutes

1. **The meeting was called to order by Chair, Vicki Hearst**
   Present were Olga, Alena, Cillian Ammar, members of Public works.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS - none**

3. **OLD BUSINESS:**

   Arbor Day Tree Giveaway - Tree Board member roles were discussed for the tree give-a-way.
   It was noted that the Sea Scouts were scheduled to volunteer and assist on Saturday.

4. **New Business - none**

5. **The meeting was adjourned at 9:35**

TREE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 19, 2026 – 9:15 AM
Administration Conference Room

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair **Vicki Hearst** at **9:25 AM.**

In Attendance:
Chair Vicki Hearst, Vice Chair Olga Aleksandrova, Cillian Ammar, Elena LaRochelle
Council Liaison: Brandi Haines
Staff Liaison: Assistant Town Manager / Public Works, Tonya Elliott-Moore

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2. OPEN FORUM / PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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3. OLD BUSINESS

a. Arbor Day Tree Giveaway – Observations and Recap

The Board discussed observations from the recent tree giveaway. Members suggested increasing the number of trees available for future events and providing plastic bags or car protection materials for residents transporting trees.

For the next meeting, each Board member will bring recommendations for **three tree varieties** for the next giveaway. Future giveaways should include a mix of **fruiting, understory, canopy, and flowering trees.**

b. Ward Trail Project Update

Vicki Hearst provided an update on the Ward Trail project. Due to the construction of the retention wall, additional trees may need to be removed.

c. Historic School House Clean-Up

The site cleanup is scheduled for the week of **February 22–27, 2026.**

d. Centennial Trees

The Board discussed potential **Willow tree** locations for Centennial tree plantings.

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4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Tree Board Membership

i. Resignation of Frank Krens
Olga Aleksandrova made a motion to accept **Frank Krens' resignation** from the Tree Board.
Seconded by Elena LaRochelle.
Motion carried unanimously.

ii. Quorum Requirements
The current quorum requirement is **three members**. Tonya Elliott-Moore will review committee rules and determine whether additional language should be added to future board member applications.

b. Grove Freeze Review
Approximately one month after the meeting, **Jennifer Hitchcock** will walk the grove and provide recommendations following the recent freeze event.

c. Gazette Articles
The next Tree Board Gazette article will focus on **hurricane preparedness.**

d. Florida Chapter – International Society of Arboriculture Conference
The **Florida ISA Conference** will take place **June 1–3, 2026.**
Cillian Ammar will attend the conference.

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5. OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Next Meeting:
March 19, 2026 at 9:15 AM

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6. ADJOURN

Motion by **Elena LaRochelle** to adjourn.
Seconded by **Cillian Ammar.**
Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:28 AM.

2026 Arbor Day Tree Giveaway

For Town of Windermere Residences

Select the "Right tree for the right place."

Common Name	Genus	Mature Height & Width
Large/Canopy Trees		
Eastern Red Cedar	Juniperus virginiana	40-50' x 8-15'
Drought tolerant, wind resistant, slow growth		
Southern Magnolia	Magnolia grandiflora	40-80' x 15-40'
White flowers, high wind resistance		
Pakistan Mulberry	Morus nigra	30-50' x 20-50'
Sweet fruit, adapts well, deciduous, messy		
Long Leaf Pine	Pinus palustris	60-80' x 30-40'
Slow growing, plant 30' from buildings		
Live Oak	Quercus virginiana	40-80' x 60-100'
Not suitable for small lots, high wind resistance		
Bald Cypress	Taxodium distichum	80' x 25'
Moist or wet areas, high wind resistance		
Medium/Understory Trees		
Dahoon Holly	Ilex cassine	20-30' x 15-20'
High wind resistance, prefers rich soil		
Red Mulberry	Morus rubra	20-40' x 20-30'
Native, red fruit, deciduous, messy		
Yellow Trumpet	Tabebuia umbellate	25-35' x 25-35'
Yellow flowers, low wind resistance		
Pink Trumpet	Tabebuia heterophylla	20-30' x 15-25'
Pink flowers, low to medium wind resistance		
Small/Understory Tree		
Yaupon Holly	Ilex vomitoria	15-30' x 6-20'
Small evergreen leave, small white flowers		
Simpson Stopper	Myrciathes fragrans	10-30' x 15-20'
Fragrant white flowers, edible fruit, high wind res.		