

# City of Norcross

*65 Lawrenceville Street  
Norcross, GA 30071*



## Meeting Agenda

**Wednesday, February 12, 2025  
4:00 PM**

**2nd Floor Conference Room**

### **Tree Preservation Board**

*Charlotte Osborn, Chair*

*Charlie Riehm, Board Member*

*Terry Sutton, Board Member*

*Hayne Thompson, Board Member*

*Michelle Osborne, Board Member*

- A. Call to Order by Chair Charlotte Osborn**  
**PLEASE TURN OFF ALL PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES**
- B. Presentation of previous meetings minutes for acceptance and acceptance of the agenda as presented for scheduled meeting.**

**a. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

[Tree Preservation Board - Tree Preservation Board - Jan 8, 2025, 4:00 PM](#)

**C. Old Business**

**Tree Talk Newsletter Article:**

Hayne's article "Trees: Marvels of Nature" appeared in the February edition. Charlotte's article for March submitted Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>, is "Your Yard's Trees Connect To Create A World Of Good." Michelle to follow for April and Charlie for May.

**Pinnacle Park Tree Arboretum Development:**

April 24<sup>th</sup> is still on track for a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Arboretum. Hunter to give us an update on the ongoing maintenance issues for the park and also the invasive species study done by Trees Atlanta.

**Honoring Old Historic Trees in Norcross:**

Charlie and Bruce Avery to update on landmark/historic trees project.

**Revised Tree Ordinances:**

Bruce to update us on the proposed ordinance changes.

**Removal of the Heritage Pecan Tree in Betty Mauldin Park:**

Email declaration was sent to M&CC Jan. 15, 2025, requesting Betty Mauldin Park remain an undisturbed green space area and that the TPB and all citizenry be notified of any plans or proposals that include significant alterations to or destruction of tree-enriched public spaces within the City of Norcross. We have received positive acknowledgement from Mayor and Josh Bare.

**Gateway Tree Planting at N'Ptree and Medlock Bridge:**

Area has been prepped and is ready for plantings.

**Tree Plantings at Norcross Elementary and Summerour Middle:**

Hunter has submitted to Joey Knight, Gwinnett County site manager, concept renderings for Summerour Park. Update from Hunter.

**2025 Arbor Day Plans:**

Plans are in place for the Arbor Day celebration scheduled for February 21, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the Lions Club building at Price Place. The entire Baldwin Elementary third grade class will be attending.

**Defining TPB Role with the City of Norcross:**

Review and discuss Charlie's proposal clarifying the TPB's role and charter for working with city staff to maintain/expand tree canopy and to stewardship passive forested areas. Charlie to update.

**D. New Business**

**DDA Properties Recently Purchased On Wingo St.:**

Discuss DDA's plans for the two houses and all of the surrounding trees. Bruce to update the tree removal status.

**Tree Bank:**

Discuss the current status of the Tree Bank. Bruce has researched the current balance and usage.

**E. Johnson Dean Business**

Public Works, at the advice of the City Attorney, has developed a three-year contract for subcontractors to bid on that would encompass general concrete work, demo, fences, utilities and general sitework for the City. This work will include the planned front entrance development for JD Forest Preserve. Bid was released on Monday Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> for a 30-day period. Public Works will seek M&CC approval by April 7<sup>th</sup>. We hope to mobilize the JD work by the last part of April.

The Trees Atlanta invasive species study of JD has completed. Hunter to share the findings.

**Johnson Dean Extension and Trail:**

Charlie will review his discussion with PG&T on moving forward with acquiring the church property for a Preserve extension and trail.

**F. ADDITIONAL INPUT AND/OR DISCUSSION NOT OTHERWISE ADDRESSED BY THIS AGENDA****G. Adjourn**

# City of Norcross

65 Lawrenceville Street  
Norcross, GA 30071



## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 8, 2025  
4:00 PM

### 2nd Floor Conference Room **Tree Preservation Board**

*Charlotte Osborn, Chair*  
*Charlie Riehm, Board Member*  
*Terry Sutton, Board Member*  
*Hayne Thompson, Board Member*  
*Michelle Osborne, Board Member*

**A. Call to Order**

The Tree Preservation Board was called to order at 4:00 PM by Chair Charlotte Osborn.

| Attendee Name    | Title             | Status  | Arrived |
|------------------|-------------------|---------|---------|
| Charlotte Osborn | Chair             | Present |         |
| Charlie Riehm    | Tree Board Member | Present |         |
| Terry Sutton     | Tree Board Member | Present |         |
| Hayne Thompson   | Tree Board Member | Present |         |
| Michelle Osborne | Tree Board Member | Present |         |

Other Attendees:

Josh Bare, Bruce Avery, Hunter Rawls, Jalia Killings

**B. Presentation of previous meetings minutes for acceptance and acceptance of the agenda as presented for scheduled meeting.**

**Tree Preservation Board - Tree Preservation Board - Dec 11, 2024 4:00 PM**

|                  |                                          |
|------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>              |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Michelle Osborne, Tree Board Member      |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Charlie Riehm, Tree Board Member         |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Osborn, Riehm, Sutton, Thompson, Osborne |

**C. Old Business****Tree Talk Newsletter Article:**

Terry's article "Invasive Vine Management" appeared in the January edition. Hayne's article for February is due Jan 13, and Charlotte will prepare one for March. Michelle to follow for April and Charlie for May.

**Pinnacle Park Tree Arboretum Development:**

Tracy and Jalia have a great idea of having our ribbon cutting ceremony for the Arboretum on the National Arbor Day date of April 24, 2025. Warmer temps and spring blooms in the park are two good reasons for moving to this date. The Board approved this move unanimously.

**New Forest Preserves:**

Council is voting to rename the Fickling Pond area "Swenson- Brown Forest Preserve". Terry will interact with PG&T on their plans to designate this area as a nature preserve.

**Honoring Old Historic Trees in Norcross:**

Our new arborist, Bruce Avery, said he was interested in pursuing a plan for locating the landmark/historic trees in Norcross. Bruce will review the ROW and Parks tree inventories for city-owned trees that would be noteworthy. Bruce would request a proposal from SavATree for consulting time (hourly rate) should it be needed for city or private property trees. We can continue this discussion at the Feb. meeting. Charlotte noted that we can then start to build a history behind each designated tree.

**Revised Tree Ordinances:**

Bruce requested a copy of the proposed changes and said he would review them "from his conservative viewpoint" and provide feedback at the next meeting.

**Removal of the Heritage Pecan Tree in Betty Mauldin Park:**

After some discussion, the board approved Michelle's declaration to M&CC regarding TPB's opposition to paving over the former Pecan tree area and keeping this entire area a green space. Charlotte will send to M&CC.

**Gateway Tree Planting at N'Ptree and Medlock Bridge:**

Hunter reported that the gateway planting will start next week and will evolve with more plantings over time.

**Tree Plantings at Summerour Middle:**

Hunter has identified several trees to Joey Knight, Gwinnett County Public Schools Grounds Site Project Manager, for planting in Summerour Park. He will follow up with Shahin and others on plans for plantings at Norcross Elementary.

**2025 Arbor Day Plans:**

Charlotte reviewed Arbor Day celebration plans for February 21<sup>st</sup> at the Lions Club building front area. Speakers to include Dave Long from the GA Forestry Comm., Mayor Craig Newton, and special speaker to the entire third grade Baldwin Elementary class, Edward Morrow. Michelle is planning goodie bags and cookies to hand out to the children. Need to contact Shahin to see what the original tree planting plans were.

**D. New Business****Defining TPB Role with the City of Norcross and PG&T:**

Charlie reviewed his proposal clarifying the TPB's role and charter for working with city staff to maintain/expand tree canopy and to stewardship forested "passive parks", but there was little discussion. Hunter noted he is already working on a management plan with Trees Atlanta for Johnson-Dean Preserve.

**E. Johnson Dean Business****New Front Entrance Project:**

Public Works is moving forward with the project, and we still expect to break ground in February. Hunter will choose the plantings and landscaping.

**Johnson Dean Trail and Preserve Expansion:**

Charlie will attend the 1/16/25 PG&T meeting to ask them to push for restarting negotiations to acquire the church's property adjacent to Johnson Dean Preserve and to explore how the two boards might work together.

**F. ADDITIONAL INPUT AND/OR DISCUSSION NOT OTHERWISE ADDRESSED BY THIS AGENDA****G. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 5:17 PM with a motion to adjourn made by Hayne, seconded by Michelle.