

**Minutes
Tree Committee
January 14, 2026**

The Town of Bel Air Tree Committee meeting took place at the Bel Air Planning and Community Development Office at 705 E Churchville Road, Bel Air, Maryland on Wednesday, January 14, 2026.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael Simini, Chair
Marion McCarron, Vice Chair
Dr. Deanna Harkins
Greg O’Hare

IN ATTENDANCE: Paula S. Etting, Town Commissioner
Syed “Waqar” Shah, Deputy Director
Kelly Burgos, Recording Secretary

ABSENT: Graham Becker

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Mr. Simini called the meeting to order at 4:30p.m.

A. Review and approval of November 12th, 2025, Minutes.

Mr. Shah asked if everyone would look over the November 12th, 2025, minutes. Corrections to November 12th, 2025 minutes were then made. The corrections made to the minutes were under New Business, Section A.iii, add the letter “t” to Bartlett. Ms. McCarron moved to make a motion to approve and to correct the minutes. Dr. Harkins seconded. All in favor. Mr. Simini passed the motion, and minutes were approved and corrected.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Recap of the year 2025

- a. Discussed projects completed over the year
 - i. Tree plantings
 - ii. Street tree plantings
 - iii. Majors Oak Sign
 - iv. Majors Oak maintenance
- b. Wayne Merkel’s recognition ceremony

III. New Business

A. Majors Oak Maintenance and Inspection

- a. A&A Tree Experts, Inc. provided further information for pruning and tree maintenance. Tree committee discussed lightning protection, fertilization, pruning, and cabling.
- b. Mr. Shah will get a quote from A&A Tree Experts, Inc. for the Majors Oak tree service and see how it fits in with the budget.

- c. Mr. O'Hare will go and look at the Majors Oak tree to compare what he sees to what A&A Tree Experts, Inc., recommends.

B. Arbor Day Celebration-Bel Air Farmers Market Opening Day-April 11, 2026

- a. Discussion on Arbor Day activities
 - i. Mr. Simini has ordered 400 seedlings to handout
 - ii. Meet at the Agricultural Center to bag seedlings a few days before the Arbor Day Celebration
 - iii. The Arbor Day Celebration will be rain or shine
 - iv. Pamphlets or cards are handed out about the different species of trees
 - v. Document on tree planting handed out
 - vi. The Tree Committee members hand out the seedlings with other volunteers
 - vii. Leftover seedlings can be handed out at Harford County Arbor Day and Aberdeen Earth Days
 - viii. Tree Committee's contribution to Arbor Day is the Arbor Day Celebration at the Bel Air's Farmers Market

IV. Adjournment

Ms. McCarron moved to adjourn the meeting and Dr. Harkins seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:02pm.