

Tree Allies

February 4, 2026

Members present: Linda Straub, Mallory Abel, Mike Beam, Larry Beiter, Grace Brenzek, Bernie Denning, and Sarah Gray

Happy Birthday to Mallory!

Meeting opened at 6:10 pm

Minutes from the previous meeting were discussed. Linda made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Chris seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Arbor Day planning was broached. Bernie suggested a new Arbor Day tree be planted by the cemetery due to possibility of ornamental plum trees being in danger of heat and dying. Mike suggested that a burr oak be replaced at the cemetery. Bernie thought that we should focus on individuals who planted trees. Heidi suggested following up on tree buyers from the Fall Tree Sale and spotlighting them in the newsletter. Chris said the Lion's Club was not interested in tree additions at this time. **April 24: Arbor Day.** Mike said he would like a tree of some size for the cemetery. Linda read from the Arbor Day news that the White Oak would be a good native choice. Possibly use Woody's Warehouse as a source. Heidi and Chris can pick up trees. The trees need to be ordered. Larry suggested that the tree planning subcommittee plan for the type of tree. It was agreed that Arbor Day tree planting at the cemetery. **Tree Planting scheduled for Sunday afternoon, April 26 at 2 pm.**

2026 Goals:

Tree USA metrics for success for the group.

Marketing campaigns: parade, mailers to houses? QR code suggested by Sara. We could make the insert in the Clermont Town newsletter. Cost is considerable. We could write about the need for more volunteers and the theme of the year.

Social Media campaigns

Permits and Ordinances

Bernie suggested that for the float for September that TREES + WATER = COOL HOMES. Sprinkler on the float. Our group can be cool, sitting in lawn chairs with drinks. Theme!

It was proposed that the theme for the year: Tree Watering!

Mallory said she would develop the content for the Town newsletter. She asked the group to consider topics. Sarah suggested discussing natives. Heidi suggested discussing the need to Not top trees.

The tree near the Clermont sign was discussed again. Group asked to wait and determine how the tree developed and make no changes at this time.

Mike reiterated that education is important for the community. Some people may not like trees, but we need to combat misinformation about trees.

Mallory asked about a motion that meeting be adjourned. Chris seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting ended at 7:30 pm.