



Spring 2019 Program Advisory Committee Minutes

Program: Arboriculture

Date: 4/2/19

Members Present: Steve Noble, Chris Wood, Jack Ingram, Jake Maynard, John Maestranzi, Mike Bonner, Matt Roberts, Matt Lefave, Tim Lequief, Caitlin Daly

Program Facilitator: Steve Noble and Chris Wood

Committee Chair: Dave Morin

Subject: This year's class updates.

Discussion: Juniors and freshman toured UMass Amherst. Co-op numbers are way up. We got a sawmill. Been busy on various field trips: Tree Wardens Meeting, Altec, Shelter Tree, Mayer Saw Shop, and ArborJet. Co-op concerns regarding 18 age restriction from employers.

Subject: School enrollment and selection process discussion:

Discussion:

Conversations and questions initiated by advisory committee. How do we encourage the students to stay in the field?

How do we bump numbers in the program to increase students for the job market?

What if we were to survey successful arborists, what works, and try to select students based on successful arborists?

We need to make the environment to invite more employees and we need make industry more appealing.

The school should re- evaluate entry requirements.

How do we choose students for the school that are good for the field?

All companies present needed employees.

The committee wanted to throw the reflection grading out of the selection process to try to get a better "fit" for the needy job market.



ESSEX NORTH SHORE

AGRICULTURAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOL

What is the criteria to get into the school?

Advisory committee wants an explanation of placement.

Why aren't the "right" students getting into the school?

Is there anything that the advisory committee can do to nudge the school, selectman, or the state?.

Subject: Night classes offerings.

Discussion:

Entertain the possibility of night classes for post high school arbor training. Companies would likely pay for employees to go. Iron Tree would send people. Industry training in the arbor building. There was strong interest in offering night classes. Upon further discussion between Steve and I, we were not certain of our availability. I can help secure other training candidates. Need to streamline training for the field. Subjects that should covered: Chainsaw safety, Basic climbing, backing up trailers, equipment, CDL, safety, pruning, knots, plant id.

Subject: Industry recognized credential survey (please complete as a group)

Discussion:

****Didn't get to this during the meeting.**

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The meeting adjourned at (time): 8:45 pm