

**Longmeadow Tree Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
Thursday, May 23, 2019 at 6 p.m.  
Public Meeting Room, Longmeadow Police Station.

The Tree Committee meeting was opened at 6:05pm. The following members were present: Chair/Tree Warden David Marinelli, Steve Steiner, Patrick Carnahan, Mark Tolosky and Wayne Ottani. Absent were and Bari Jarvis. Visitor was Kathryn Kucab.

**Public comments and discussion:** None

**Tree Warden Report:** Longmeadow has been awarded the Tree City USA designation. Award ceremony will be held Wednesday May 29<sup>th</sup> in Sturbridge, MA.

Contract with Northern Tree Service has expired. Contract has gone out to bid.

**Old Business:** Arbor Day was recognized, and three trees were planted at Center School in honor of Arbor Day.

Long Meddowe Days was a success. 380 tree saplings were given out. Sugar maple, Hophornbeam, Common Persimmon and White Spruce.

Tree planting continues throughout town. About 160 trees have been replanted since last October.

Municipal Vulnerability Planning (MVP) is ongoing. Tree canopy safety was identified by the focus group as one of Longmeadow's four top priorities, along with culverts and drainage, and emergency communications. During the first grant cycle, funds will be requested to complete and update the Public Shade Tree inventory and develop a hazard management plan.

25 trees were treated with trunk injection for the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). 8-9 trees still need to be treated this year. Several Ash trees have declined since last fall and are no longer salvageable. They will be removed after a hearing.

Sidewalk renovations are being reviewed and on-going.

**New Business:** Review of changes to Longmeadow Tree Manual. The proposed changes align the document with current and recent practice. Vote to approve changes was unanimous. The altered sections are appended to the minutes.

Gypsy Moth caterpillars have started to emerge. Central Massachusetts had significant defoliation last year due to Gypsy Moth populations. At this time, impact on Longmeadow is limited.

Bliss Park ADA trail discussed. Tree Warden reviewed project and believed no damage to tree roots would occur based upon information provided by the Town Engineer.

Tree removal list was reviewed (trees removed in Longmeadow due to hazardous conditions). List included tree location, tree type, and costs.

Discussion regarding modifying Longmeadow Tree Manual to make it more user friendly. This would be a long-term project. Discussion continues.

The minutes were reviewed and unanimously approved.

Set next meeting date: 06/27/2019

The meeting was adjourned at 7:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Patrick Carnahan, Recorder

The purpose of the Tree Committee is to promote a healthy and sustainable community forest by planting and maintaining quality trees and providing education and advocacy to the public on the benefits of trees.

# Longmeadow Tree Committee

## Meeting Minutes

The following changes to the Longmeadow Tree Manual were discussed and unanimously approved on May 23, 2019:

Page 5, Section IV. C. 2.

### 2. Gift of tree-planting funds

The Town of Longmeadow welcomes tree-planting fund donations in any amount. You may call the Tree Warden at the DPW to discuss species, placement, and current charges. The Town's Tree Committee has a Memorial Tree Planting Program under which you may donate a tree in honor or in memory of a person. ~~There is a Commemorative Plaque for Trees kept permanently in the Storrs Memorial Library, in which you may provide details of the person you wish to honor.~~ Memorial trees are recognized on plaques permanently displayed in the Community House. For details refer to the brochure, available at the DPW or Town Hall.

Page 7, Section V. D.

### D. PRIORITIES FOR TREE PLANTING LOCATIONS

The Longmeadow Tree Committee sets the following priorities based on the recommendations of the Tree Warden. The Tree Committee shall conduct a survey periodically to identify public areas most in need of trees, in order of priority:

1. Streets or public spaces where there has been significant tree loss.
2. Sites where new development or town projects require additional plantings.
3. Prominent public places in need of new trees.
4. Town right-of-way planting sites which have previously lost Public Shade Trees will be planted when the fee owner agrees to water the replacement tree for two growing seasons.
5. New town right-of-way planting sites will be planted when the fee owner agrees to water the replacement tree for two growing seasons.
- ~~4. Sites designated by the Tree Warden and Tree Committee as off tree belt areas.~~
- ~~5. A location where a tree removal occurs is automatically put on a priority list for replacement; no request is needed. Areas where new plantings have not survived are also added to this list.~~
- ~~6. If a public tree is lost from in front of a residence or business, the Tree Warden will discuss its replacement with the owner. The owner will be encouraged to consider off tree belt planting where appropriate.~~
- ~~7. Requests for non replacement trees shall be addressed when first and second priority plantings have been completed, new trees are still available, and designated funding for non replacement trees is available.~~

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