

Longmeadow Tree Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 23, 2018 at 6 p.m.

DPW office, 31 Pondsides Road

The Tree Committee meeting was opened at 6:08 pm. The following members were present: Chair David Marinelli, Mark Tolosky, Tree Warden Jason Scott, Bari Jarvis

Absent were: Wayne Ottani and Patrick Carnahan

Public comments and discussion: Terry and John Lyons of 57 Maplewood Street: interested in having a tree in their tree belt removed, this is near the edge of the road. The Lyons pointed out they have planted over 20 trees on their property during their residence. Since there was a written citizen objection, the Town Manager/Select Board must make the final decision. Chair Marinelli cited his reasons for his objections as well as future options.

Steve Steiner of 82 Williamsburg Drive attended to observe as a prospective committee member.

Tree Warden Report: August was a busy month with tree calls and inquiries. The list of tree hearings and results were shared. Last, Tree Warden Scott announced he will be resigning his position as tree warden as soon as the position can be filled.

Old Business:

Plan for tree planting on Longmeadow Street- ongoing planning; citing annual reports and historical photographs with a 12/31/18 deadline for plantings.

Pruning dead wood at High School- approximately half the trees are complete and one additional dead sugar maple was removed by the DPW.

Dutch Elm treatment in Longmeadow- Chair Marinelli shared research he conducted from annual reports showing trends from 1962-current regarding tree inventory, expenditures and remaining elms

New Business

Library Talk 9/12/2018 at 6:30pm- Longmeadow Trees, Past, Present, and Future

Review of Forestry expenditures 1962-2017 were shared- not all data reflects inflation and must be adjusted

Tree Committee Webpage update- complete adding a FAQ section as well as planting request forms

Invite DCR Forester to next meeting- Tree Committee is in support of the town contracted arborist/forester to attend the September meeting to inform the committee of what policies other towns employ concerning tree hearings, clarifications, etc.

Announcements: DCR Tree Steward Training is in Harvard Forest, Petersham on October 12-13, 2018

The minutes of the current meeting were reviewed, corrected as needed, and approved unanimously.

Set next meeting date: 9/27/18

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Bari Jarvis, 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.