

Longmeadow Tree Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 25, 2018 at 6 p.m.

DPW office, 31 Pondsides Road

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

Public comments and discussion: None

Tree Warden Report: Tree Warden discussion regarding tree health in town. Recommendation to document all unhealthy trees so that work on them can be addressed.

Old Business: Plan for tree planting on Longmeadow Street - ongoing planning, with a possible 12/31/18 deadline for plantings.

New Business: Dave Marinelli has been appointed the new Tree Warden for Longmeadow. Since Dave was serving as Tree Committee Chairperson, he sought input regarding appointment of a new Tree Committee Chairperson. Recommendation made to seek guidance from State Ethics Commission regarding having Dave serve as both Chairperson and Tree Warden. Dave will do so and report back.

Discussion regarding providing more leeway for Tree Warden to grant permission to homeowner to perform work on street trees under certain conditions and with certain stipulations. Tree Warden provided a template for permission which was reviewed by committee. Discussion followed, and revised permission form unanimously approved. Permission form will be sent to Town Manager for final review and approval.

Review of proposed plan to plant trees in Bliss Park via CPC funds. Tree planting would occur around tennis courts and playground area. Discussion regarding tree species which would be best for area. Several species were suggested for inclusion in planting plan.

Tree Warden is currently staking out locations in Town for replacement tree plantings on tree belts.

Wayne has volunteered to place lights on the Holiday Tree on the green again this year. Plan is to have tree on display for Thanksgiving.

Discussion regarding tree on Farmington Rd. that has had an American flag placed on it. The flag has been hung via screws and is in violation of Massachusetts General Law which states that nothing should be affixed to street trees. Wayne and Dave will try to locate the responsible person for discussion.

The minutes were reviewed and unanimously approved.

Set next meeting date: 11/15/2018

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 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.