



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
**730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476**  
**Phone: 781-316-3000**

**webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us**

## Minutes 05/12/2011

### Arlington Tree Committee Meeting Minutes - May 12th 2011

Present: Sally Naish, Eliza Burden, Andrew Fischer, Patti Muldoon, Ed Trembly, Greg Watt (minutes for 1st half)

Absent: Mary Ellen Aronow, Lisa Decker, Jim Dodge, Walter Phillips, Clarissa Rowe, Corinna Vanderspek

The following minutes reflect topics discussed as long as a quorum was maintained.

1. April meeting minutes approved.
2. Announcements: Read the Open Meetings Laws which Sally forwarded to everyone on the ATC. We need to send meeting minutes to the town clerk within 45 days of the meeting, and we need to send the agenda prior to the meeting as well.
3. Planting Day Debriefing:  
40 trees were planted! All agreed that it was a smashing success.
  - a. Discussed plans for next year and how to choose sites for planting:
    1. Ask residents who are missing street trees "have you ever thought about putting a tree in your yard?"
    2. Should we only plant at addresses where people request trees, or would that lead to a disproportionate share of trees being planted in the Heights?
    3. Should half of the trees we buy be appropriate for planting under wires?
    4. Should we plant seedlings around town (Mt. Gilboa, cemetery, Symmes Hosp site etc.) for future harvesting? An urban tree farm!
    5. Minuteman Technical High School has a horticulture program and has many Arlington students (\$2.5 million from APS for approximately 150 Arlington students) who could be interested in supporting ATC goals and programs.
      6. Develop a Doodle/ Google doc where ATC members keep a list of places that need trees
      7. Develop a volunteer database
      8. Should we assign trees and not give people a choice of species?
      9. Should we require that people pay for the trees and plant them themselves? A real "Adopt a Tree Program"
  - b. Scouts volunteer  
Ed informed us of a Scout working towards being an Eagle Scout, which requires a 100 hour community project. The Scout would need to submit a proposal to the Scoutmaster and the ATC prior to the start of the project, which could be helping to build an Arlington tree farm or to help with planting.
  - c. Press: A photo of Mary Ellen and some scouts was in the Advocate's coverage of Planting Day
4. Assigned Roles for ATC members (eg website, PR, Fundraising, Special Events, etc)  
- topic shelved
5. Town Day and T-Shirt design - topic shelved

6. Website - Updates needed - topic shelved
7. Publicity/Fundraising for Trees Please - topic shelved
8. Update on Mill Street Plane Tree - topic shelved
9. Update for Town meeting: Ed will introduce Sally to update Town Meeting on the ATC
10. Tree Location and Tree Harvesting - topic shelved
  
11. NStar is Back: NStar sent a letter to Arlington Town Counsel sharing their intent to re-start tree pruning that was in accordance with state law. Town Counsel Rice informed them that in her legal opinion, Town law applied, and NStar would not be permitted to prune trees in Arlington until the Town and NStar reached agreement as to the scope and practice of pruning.

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 16th  
Minutes: Andrew Fischer