

ARLINGTON TREE COMMITTEE

Monthly Regular Meeting of Arlington Tree Committee

Wednesday, July 9, 7:30 PM, Selectmen's Hearing Room, Town Hall

Present: Mike Rademacher, Lisa Decker, Sally Naish, Ed Trembly, Eliza Burden, Liz Pilcher

1. Welcome

2. Approval of May and June Meeting Minutes

Approved.

3. Planting public trees on private property

- **Revised draft for Arlington circulated to TC.** Susan Stamps is working on a draft. MR reported that 150 trees have been requested for fall planting through WebQA. The Town's tree division personnel are checking for the presence of overhead wires and the size of the planting strip to accommodate new trees at the sites corresponding to the requests. The Town will identify locations where it might be preferable to plant on private property. **MR will check with Lexington to see how they go about contacting homeowners.**
- **Steps for approval and implementation.** To be discussed Sept. 10.

4. Publicity

- **Advocate article(s).** The July 3 article generated good publicity, including appearing on Facebook. The August 7 article is about tree watering.
- **New members/recruiting.** The release is ready for final review and once approved will be published July 17. Liz will send it to MEA and EB.

5. New Co-Chair.

To be discussed Sept. 10.

6. Summer watering.

MR reports that the tree division has been doing some watering of trees planted last fall. We reviewed the Bishop and Robbins Farm Park watering schedule. July is under control.

Bishop Tree: Sally will water the first two weeks of August; Ed will water the second two weeks of August.

Robbins Park Tree: Eliza will water the last two weeks of August.

7. Town Day Planning.

At the next meeting of the ATC on September 10, we will schedule personnel to 'man' the Town Day table on September 13. Ed will help

set up. **MEA will check supplies and the whereabouts of Ed's tent.**

- **Tree raffle.** MR approved giving away a new tree. **Sally will find the tree and MR will work out the payment.**
- **Library adopt-a-tree map.** Is the library doing this? Could we feature it at our booth.

8. Other Business

- **Summer Committee meeting schedule.** To be discussed Sept. 10.
- **Silver Maple Forest protest on June 28.** To be discussed Sept. 10.
- **Emerald Ash Borer.** To be discussed Sept. 10.
- **NStar.** MR reports that NStar is eager to get going with pruning Town trees. They want to have a demonstration project this fall after which pruning will get underway. They have hired a person to be responsible for community liaison, education and determining consistent pruning techniques to accommodate the tree as much as possible. The Town is trying to devise a process that clearly communicates what to expect.
- **July 3-4 storm.** The storm hit between 10pm and midnight and resulted in reports of 175 incidences of downed limbs. Twelve trees were also reported down. The following day, the hurricane caused the loss of six trees and more downed limbs.
- **Mass Ave construction.** In July approximately 14 trees will be removed in preparation for sidewalk work. In August, construction on the west bound side of the road will start at Pond St and go eastward and will be completed by the end of this construction season. The other side of the street will start in spring 2015.
- **Grants.** We discussed applying for grants. Tree committee members researched grant availability a few years ago. Eliza suggested the development of a subcommittee to develop this idea further. MR said that the Town has set aside some money for trees. We are looking to supplement these funds, which may put us ahead of some communities who have not set aside some money.

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 10, 7:30 pm, Selectmen's Hearing Room, Town Hall