

# ARLINGTON TREE COMMITTEE

Monthly Meeting, May 11, 7:00 PM, Annex, Town Hall

**Present:** Eliza Burden, John Ellis, Sally Naish, Eric Ammondson, Becky Edmondson, Mary Ellen Aronow, Ed Tremblay, Susan Stamps. Visitor, Mike Rademacher.

## 1. Approve April meeting minutes

The draft minutes were accepted unanimously without corrections.

## 2. DPW Tree Department Update (Mike R.)

**Spring planting:** Underway with approximately 2/3 of the 125 trees planted. Mike expects completion by the end of next week. **Action:** Mike will forward a species list following completion.

**Scannell Field planting:** Eliza reviewed the planting recommendations she developed with Sally. Mike reported Parks and Recreation and AYBSA are supportive. **Action:** Mike will develop a sketch for review and will proceed with the planting.

**Park Circle planting:** Eliza reported there is an inner ring of fruit trees planted and maintained by Russ Cohen (neighbor). An outer ring of shade trees is in poor condition and should be supplemented with new shade tree planting. Mike suggested performing historical research regarding former plantings. **Action:** Mike will develop a sketch for proposed plantings and meet with R. Cohen who offered to maintain the new plantings.

**Tree Warden:** A central MA resident accepted the offer and will be presented to the BOS on Monday for approval. He will begin work next week on a 24 hour/week basis. The new warden will attend the Open Tree Map training session next week.

**Fee guidelines for public tree removal:** Mike shared a sample letter describing the process and fees associated with requests for removal of healthy public trees. **Actions:** Sally made a motion for the approval of this document, Mary Ellen seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Mike to have new tree warden update the Town's website with this information.

**Tree Hearings:** Mike reported a tree hearing will be scheduled for the removal of a 20" DBH tree at 58 Ridgfield Road. Mike met with the homeowner who requested its removal due to the roots undermining a retaining wall on the property.

## 3. Tree Inventory – Open Tree Map platform (John E.)

The May 19 training with a DCR expert will occur on May 19 from 4-6 pm in the second floor ATH annex meeting room. There will also be online training using the Open Tree app for the Pilot Tree Inventory along Plow Route 12. It was discussed that the first inventory should be scheduled for as soon as possible after the training. ACMI will record the session.

**Action:** John requested all attendees download the application onto their smart phones in advance. John and Eliza will meet to discuss the next steps. Becky to write a user guide for Open Tree app for the training session. Becky to post notice of training to Menotomy Gardeners.

## 4. Allegations of trees dying in town center from gas leaks

No discussion.

## 5. Bylaw (Susan S.) – update

Susan thanked everyone for their assistance and in particular Mary Ellen. Susan proposed additional outreach to developers regarding the bylaw, updating the ATC website, providing informational materials to ISD and the Tree Department and providing a listing of associated fees to be available for pickup at ISD. Susan informed the committee that the bylaw goes into effect following Attorney General approval. Susan and Mary Ellen to discuss next steps. Becky to post items on website as they become available, under guidance of Susan and Mary Ellen.

**6. Publicity/Outreach**

FB/Website/Email: No discussion.

Google Groups: No discussion.

**7. Membership, Committee Roles, Responsibilities and Tenure**

Co-Chairs : No discussion.

**8. New Business**

None

**9. Correspondence received:**

No discussion

**Next meeting: Committee meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month. June 8, 7:30 pm.**