



Arlington Tree Committee

Date: Wednesday, November 10, 2021

Time: 7:30pm

Location: Zoom meeting – **You must Register in advance for this meeting:** [https://town-arlington-ma-us.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUode6pqz0rHNXZROntx6WOIKpcgqgAMd9R](https://town-arlington-ma-us.zoom.us/join/91234567890)

You will receive a confirmation email with information about joining the meeting.

In attendance: Eliza Burden, Susan Stamps, Mara Vatz, Keith Schnebly, Steve Moore, Ed Trembly.
Others: Tim Lecuire, and guests: Beth Melofchik, Jo Anne Preston

Agenda

1. *Approve October Meeting Minutes. APPROVED*
2. *DPW Tree Department Update (Tim)*
 - Construction and trees news - New trees at Whittemore Park are being watered by irrigation system – watered 2x's a week
 - Tree Bylaw activity
 - i. 1 tree plan – 53 Marathon St – No trees except street tree (Ash) on Waldo street that will be protected with Construction Method 3 – 2x4s
 - Tree hearing(s) – no hearings
 - Fall tree watering / Fall tree planting
 - i. Ball and burlap planting completed – Forest/Summer, 10 evergreens on spring st
 - ii. Whittemore Robbins House: 2 Jefferson Elms. One of these is a Memorial Tree for AYCC's Elaine Shea
 - iii. New trees in Old Burying ground – little smaller than anticipated, cedars and sugar maples
 - iv. 200 bare root planting in progress – targeting heat islands and Article 16 areas. Tim L faced some refusals but trees were planted on Tanager St, 32 Appleton St, and Melvin.
 - v. Tree Equity Score Map – can help plan for future tree planting ([Tree Equity Score](#)) – Spring planting. The triangle near railroad parking (near Water St) another good location for new trees
 - Other
 - i. Broadway – Water main first section will be replaced
 - ii. Stratton – safe passage to schools project – It was suggested that all but three trees should be kept; three are not viable for health reasons. Three committee members attended tonight's pre - 25% planning meeting. The meeting wanted to hear from residents to understand town priorities. ATC made it clear that preservation of healthy large trees is a priority.
3. *Report from Subcommittee re: Expanding Tree Planting in Town*
 - Arlington Housing Authority Menotomy Manor. 8 trees planted last week: 4 dogwoods, 3 maples, 1 honeylocust
 - o Watering plan – maintenance team has spigots available – recruited residents

- Heat zone targeted planting – apartment building manager outreach (Steve)
 - Looking for language from Doug Heim for back of sidewalk plan
 - Planting on private ways. No discussion. Looking for feedback from Doug Heim
 - Back of sidewalk
 - Looking for language from Town Counsel. **Action: (Susan to check in w Heim)**
 - UU Church in town center interested in trees
 - Robbins Farm
 - Schools are a possibility for Trees Please funds and are already Town Property. Tim mentioned that Arbor Day plantings at elementary schools can resume after Covid
 - Follow up from Planning Dept meeting: (Eliza). **Action: Eliza will contact Beth Locke from Chamber of Commerce to discuss ways private businesses can get involved in tree planting initiatives.**
4. Publicity/Community Outreach
- Website editing (Steve/Mary Ellen/Eliza)
 - i. Steve is filling in the Big Tree section of the web site. Decided to identify the trees by neighborhood or school district rather than specific address
 - ii. **Action: Steve will add link to website along with Arlington's tree equity map ([Tree Equity Score](#))**
 - iii. Missing Title / Logo to tab marker – **Action: Steve will add**
 - iv. All members forward suggestions to Steve
 - v. Question – Add links to arborists, tree removal (cranes)
 - Outreach to town orgs (ARB, ZBA, Park & Rec, Op Space, School Comm, ConComm)
 - Broader inclusion / equity of ATC materials, programs, and members/ translations
 - i. Construction guidelines and adopt-a-tree info translated
5. Report on Bylaw review for 2022 – Warrant due in December
- By Law triggers – footprint 50% increase, new construction/demolition,
 - Applies only to Trees in set back great than 8" dbh
 - Changes proposed
 - i. Tree replacement planting with bond option – dbh = removed dbh - post bond to keep trees alive – 3 years – get the funds back
 - 1. Eric H (Select Board) suggested finance input
 - ii. Reduce protected tree dbh to 6" – Lexingt, Wellesley, Camb and Concord all at 6"
 - iii. All trees on property, not just those in set back
 - iv. Change definition of **substantial demolition** – (remodeling by gutting, and leaving only one wall) – add more detail to make it more clear (i.e. removal of roof, removal of a wall) – Action – Susan look at Lexington/Cambridge by laws for definition
 - v. Other thoughts
 - 1. Building Permit
 - a. require affidavit re Tree By Law – confer with town counsel?
 - b. Add a section on permit application
 - 2. Apply to any tree removal – fees discounted
 - vi. Next Step
 - 1. Share Google doc and add feedback
 - vii. Request was made that we review Article 38 to be sure that tree bylaw applies in this situation
6. New Business
- Is there a place in Arlington to plant a Miyawaki Forest like the one at Danehy Park, Cambridge? <https://dev.bio4climate.org/miyawaki-forest/>

Next meeting: December 8th