



Arlington Tree Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, May 11 **Time:** 7:30 PM

Location: Meeting will be conducted remotely, via Zoom application

You must Register in advance for this meeting:

[ATC Monthly Meeting Zoom Link](#)

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

In attendance: Mary Ellen Aronow, Eliza Burden, Steve Moore, Keith Schnebly, Susan Stamps, Tim Lecuivre (Arlington Tree Warden), Nate Fortin (Guest)

1. *Approve Regular Meeting Minutes*

- April ATC Minutes – **Minutes approved with minor format changes.**

2. *Department of Public Works (DPW) Tree Division Update (Tim)*

- Tree Bylaw activity – projects
 - 42 Rhinecliff – Avatar – no removals – two trees protected
 - 27 Wellesley – Avatar – no removals – two public shade trees protected
 - 248 Ridge St – Seaver – no trees removed – trees protected
 - 26 Old Colony Rd – Seaver - no trees removed – 3 protected in setback and 2 public street trees will be protected
 - 28 Radcliffe Rd - Transatlantic (new developer) – no trees removed – many trees protected
- Tree hearing(s) – **No tree hearings in last month**
- Tree health/management news – Watching for Spotted Lanternfly that has been seen in Fitchburg
- Spring tree planting – 150 trees planted – half requests, half in heat island and replacement area, tree equity focus. Also, 3 Evergreens planted for Arbor Day at McClennan Park
- Other Town projects –
 - New Plantings in front of the Arlington High School – 20-30 new trees (mostly understory trees) in addition to the very large existing trees protected along Mass Ave. Tim says AHS building team promised irrigation system will be adequate to support the new trees. Check this summer to see if adequate.
 - Broadway Plaza – Honey Locusts that came down will be replaced with 3.5 inch Bow Hall Maple, Japanese Zelkova (vase shape), and Honey Locust.
- **New Hire to the DPW Tree Crew** – Jeremy from NC – tree care experience – 5th person on the crew. Crew is watering every day and after hours.
- **Summer help** – 2 intern positions opened. One returning from last year. Broader opportunities available than just the watering truck.

3. *Publicity/Community Outreach*

- Outreach to Town orgs. (ARB, Conservation Commission, Open Space Comm., Park & Recreation Commission, School Comm., ZBA) and updates on projects/policy involving trees
- Regional Tree Committee Meeting (Eliza, Mary Ellen). Next meeting June 1 at 7pm via zoom – Mary Ellen and Eliza have attended. Very informative, lots of interesting perspectives.
- Tim's Arbor Day talk at Old Schwamb Mill; related Trees to Frames exhibit - was excellent. Many tree committee members attended
- **Plantings at schools**
 - Eliza has reserved three October Glory maples at Mahoney's, for Ottoson. Eliza will follow up with Mike and Tim to get approval.
 - Mara and Keith met with Superintendent Liz Homan, to make the case for tree planting at schools with initial planting at Thompson School. She reported that a new Facilities management position has been created to be in charge of school grounds. Process was for Liz to talk with Adam Chapdelaine, then Mike R, then schedule time on the Facilities subcommittee agenda.
 - Brackett will plant two redbuds and an oak this week.

- Thompson School will plant 2-3 redbuds and a dogwood from Community Canopy Program
 - **Action** – Reach out to new facilities director to work on the planning and immediate needs for tree care. Remind Dr Homan next week - Mara
- **Adopt-A-Tree program** – spring reboot. Steve working with Mary Ellen to get the updates into the website to support the program. New adoptions working but old adoptions still there. Need to clear but retain the email addresses. Adam is available for limited time consultation through his current contract. Need to get the 3 year window to roll. Sayeed is the new GIS person. Inventory is up to date, per Tim's updates.
4. *Subcommittee re: Expanding Tree Planting in Town Update*
- **Community Canopy Program for 2022**
 - Sold almost all trees – remaining are going to school plantings
 - Some of the dogwoods are showing stress, leaf curling – Mary Ellen refunded one dogwood. Eliza did a site visit and saw new growth – maybe stressed in the process and will recover with watering
 - Next year – try to get more canopy trees
 - **Back of Sidewalk (MGL Ch. 87) Program** (Eliza) –
 - Heard no updated from Town Counsel. UU Church has planted 4 big Tupelo's in front lawn! Tim met with Alan Tosti (sp) from the church to test the planting pits for gas leaks which were clean. Mass Ave and Pleasant does have gas leaks!
 - Discussed approaching Jimmy's Steer House as a pilot back-of-sidewalk initiative to combat heat in town's hottest zones.
5. *Tree Preservation and Protection Bylaw Amendment*
- Article 10 on warrant passed at May 2nd TM – Congratulations!!! Great presentation by Susan
6. *New Business*
- **Town Meeting Articles Review**
 - **Article 38** – All single housing zoning would allow two family/duplex structures – MEA had prepared a deck on impact of two family zoning saying Town is not ready for this change. Shows results of two family builds: increased hardscape (driveways, walkways) results in fewer tree planting opportunities.
 - **Article 29** – Street Tree planting/spacing along main corridors – Tim suggested ATC & DPW provide list of types of trees (large, medium, small) that we can give to the contractors that need to plant and provide care for following construction completion. Susan and MEA asked whether we should offer an amendment to require tree plan. Tim responded that perhaps we should work with it as written for the year and offer any needed changes for next year.
 - Town Day (9/17/2022) – registration and planning – **Steve will work to get ATC registered**
 - **Cusack Terrace** – Jo Anne Preston reached out to request trees in three locations – Keith to follow up with Jo Ann with plantings and watering plans to include residents. Drake Village planning for tree planting in fall.
 - Charlotte Milan Invitation to Bio Diversity online workshop - (May 17). Eliza signed up; Keith will sign up
 - Re-envisioning the Foot of the Rocks – Town project supported with CPA funds is looking for public inputs – Jim Feeney reached out to Tim to evaluate the trees. Two Serviceberries, old but healthy. 2 pines, one healthy, 2 Bradford Pears in Good condition, 1 Norway Maple healthy.
 - Trees as a Public Good
 - Lexington replanting the trees in structured soil, engineering soil – very fascinating plan
7. **Meeting adjourned - 9:21 p.m.**

Next Meeting: June 8, 2022 7:30 p.m.