



Arlington Tree Committee Minutes

Date: Wednesday, May 10, 2023, Time: 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Location: Conducted via Zoom application: [ATC Monthly Meeting Zoom Link](#)

In attendance: Keith Schnebly, Mary Ellen Aronow, Susan Stamps, Eliza Burden, Steve Moore, Mara Vatz, Tree Warden Tim Lecuivre; Visitor: Jeff Geller

1. Review Agenda & Introduce Guests – We introduced our selves to Jeff Geller and spoke about his interest in the Tree Committee. He has started following some of the notifications and lists and was interested in seeing the Tree Committee meeting
2. Action Items & Minutes
 - Community Canopy Program & Arbor Day Tree Planting update. 56 trees from NE Nurseries, sold 46. For Arbor Day, Tim planted a tree by the library, ATC took a watering video, posted on social media.
3. Department of Public Works (DPW) Tree Division Update (Tim)
 - Tree Maintenance Activity – Water Truck
 - Tree Bylaw Activity -
 - 123 Hemlock – Removing Roof Structure so new by-law does apply
 - Cambridge Landscape submitted Tree Plan
 - Tree Hearings – None since 61 Hillside – perhaps this is the effect of the by-law changes and communications with the builders in town and the community
 - Spring Tree Planting - **Completed**
 - Town Projects Involving Trees
 - 10 Sunnyside Ave. -- ZBA and Steve are reviewing.
 - Eliza mentioned that the tree straps at AHS are too tight. She alerted Tim who was in contact with Consigli (contractors) who promised to take care of it.
 - Construction Guidelines were not part of the RFP for the Town Hall Area Project. **Susan will contact Jim Feeny (replacing Sandy Pooler in July) to ensure these are included in future RFPs**
4. Adopt-A-Tree Program
 - Posters in Schools - Student Sign Up
 - Notification in social media, at Town Meeting, **ask the town to include in Town notifications**
 - Program is now up and running—trying to publicize in as many places as possible. Keith is going to post to the Arlington List. **Keith to check with Steve about getting a poster for the Arl Heights Street Fair**
5. Publicity/Community Outreach
 - Ecofest - Spring Festival - Tree Committee Table – 10 June 2:00 – 5:00. Keith will man the table.
 - SAVE Club - Promote Adopt-A-Tree. Eliza met with 20 kids in the SAVE club, they were interested. We're making connections at AHS.
 - Storm Water Summit. Eliza attended – very well-attended. David Morgan, Wayne Chouinard, and one other presented. The meeting ended before each group had a chance to share how their work addresses storm water management.
 - David Morgan has been involved in several events in the last week and a half—regular meetings, turf fields, stormwater summit, Cooke's Hollow event, and Tufts student presentations. The flurry of activity was related to Eco Fest. They've put together a Green Management Plan and we want to be involved with that. They also have a grant to come up with sustainable landscaping guidelines. 91% of land in Arlington is privately owned, so to address sustainability issues, it must involve the private sector, and our community canopy program is doing that.

- ARB / ZBA. ZBA has begun final review process of 1021-1025 Mass Ave. No more public input. They also just began 10 Sunnyside Ave. It's a great plan, but it's in a light industrial district. Arlmont Oil (next door) is a 24 hour operation with oil trucks, but building will try to compensate with building design. It will not involve ConCom because it is outside the zone (more than 200 ft away from Alewife Brook).
 - Town Departments: Planning / Legal
6. Town Meeting News
- Article 30 – Update from Mary Ellen: Article 30, usable open space is of interest. A complicated town requirement. Article 30 proposes to eliminate it.
7. Review New Actions
- Back of sidewalk trees: once they're planted, it is up to the owner to water them. **Requires a follow up meeting with DPW to solidify operationally how it would work.**
 - How can we encourage private property owners to want to plant trees? Can Tim be involved in some way? Can we have Tim say something like “we want to plant trees along this stretch, but there's no planting strip, so we propose planting on your property”, encouraging them to plant a shade tree. Might have more authority coming from Tim than the ATC?
8. Upcoming Meeting Items
- New Members
 - Yearly Calendar – for next meeting – early item
 - Tree Management Plan
 - GIS Data and 2018 Objectives
 - David Morgan
 - Roles and Responsibilities

Adjourn 8:00 pm

Next Meeting: June 14, 2023