

Hartford Tree Board Meeting
Tuesday, August 17, 2021
Town Hall Room 312

Mission: The Tree Board's mission is to plant and maintain public trees and advocate community tree stewardship.

Board Members Present: Leif Smedman, Clare Forseth, John Sherman, Kathy Lamb, Karen Watson, Jeff Arnold, David Barrell

Also attending: Dave Crocco, liaison to Parks and Recreation Committee, Dylan Kreis of Parks and Recreation.

Meeting called to order: 5:03

Review and approval of July 20, 2021 minutes: July minutes were accepted as written.

Business:

- Tree Warden replacement, instating a Deputy Tree Warden: The need to begin the search for a new tree warden was expressed as soon as Dana officially resigns from the position. Once a tree warden is in place the board can work with the selectboard in assigning a deputy tree warden. Jeff will write a description of tree warden responsibilities and the urgent need in filling the position while coordinating with Park and Recreation and their responsibility as to trees in the parks.
- Tree Sale for fall: We will hold the tree sale in the spring. The trees in the nursery that seem healthy now should be fine over the winter and be ready to sell in the spring.
- Tree ID Walk in fall: A decision was made to hold the Tree Identification Walk on the Quechee River Loop October 16, 2021 from 10-12 pm. Some tree board members already walked the trail and thought it would be an easy/medium difficult trail for the public. Although a discussion about having a working session at Watson Park, separate from the ID walk was not resolved, there are trees (especially the catalpa and horse chestnut) that could use some intervention.
- Plan monthly or bi-monthly casual gatherings to practice tree identification around different neighborhoods. These meetings would not be advertised to the public, but for Board members to sharpen their skills: Section 5 in Quechee would be a good place to explore. Jeff and David will organize a board outing to practice tree identification.
- Quechee Green tree removal, presentation/notice to inform residents: A few board members reported (with pictures) to Scott about the need to remove/replace 6 trees on the Quechee Green. One tree needing to be replaced is a memorial tree with a plaque. Scott is in the process of prioritizing his budget and crew and will report back to the board. The Board along with Parks and Recreation will need to hold a town informational meeting (on site?) to inform and gather comments from the public about the removal of the trees.

- Maxfield tree removal and replacement: There are a number of dead and/or dying trees that need a plan to be removed. Kathy will talk to Karen McNall about sending a work order to Parks and Recreation to get them on the list.
- Planting a new tree, in the town owned section of land, prior to entrance of Wilder Picnic Area, Dan Ramirez, possible donation of tree. We do have an American Elm (it is Elm Street after all) from the looks of it that we could transplant. Would also be open to any suggestions from the tree advisory board: Tabled to September meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:56

Respectfully submitted,
Clare Forseth, Secretary

Signed this 21 day of September, 2021.