

Tree Board Meeting Minutes  
Town of Hartford Town Hall  
August 20, 2019  
Room 312, 6:00 p.m.

**DRAFT MINUTES**

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

Board Members Present: Tim Covell, Jeff Arnold, Kathy Lamb, Clare Forseth, Carole Haehnel, Kathy Watson, Chair

Others: Non present

Meeting called to order: 6:04

\*Education: Current Trends & Practices: July newspaper article on Emerald Ash Borer: Rutland has removed 144 ash trees around town. The town then decided to try to save 100 trees by treating them with insecticide. Valley News also had an article on trying to save Chestnut Trees in Charlestown.

\*Minutes Approval: With the correction of Karen Watson missing from the attending members, the amended July minutes were approved unanimously.

\*Old Business:

\*Tree warden's Report: In the absence of Brad, Karen reported that she wrote to Brad and Scott for an update on the logistics of planting the three trees at Town Hall. Since she didn't get a response, Karen will get in touch with Brad to see what he is planning and if the Tree Board can be of any help.

\*Planning Board Liaison Report: After emailing the plans for 132 South Main St for 66 studio apartments with commercial property on the 1st floor to the board earlier, Clare reiterated her response to the Planning Office of substituting the four honey locust trees (over represented in town) along the side for a tupelo (native and friendly to birds), hackberry (native and friendly to birds), and Japanese Zelkova (removed from previous plans). We also suggested using structural soil for the two columnar red maples that would be planted in an area with pavers. Clare will report back to board when she hears from the Planning Office.

\*Landscaping Guidelines Report: Clare shared White River Junction Design Guidelines with board. The Guidelines committee had not met.

\*Fruit Tree Plantings on Town Properties: -Karen responded by email to Simon Dennis (and the board) about the board's support for planting fruit trees in appropriate public spaces.

\*Hazard Mitigation Plan - Karen responded by email to Lori Hirshfield (and the board) the board's concerns for hazard mitigation.

\*the importance of tree diversity; this is especially important as we face the probable die-off of species under attack from predators and from a changing climate.

- the importance of swales, particularly in parking lots and along roads to capture or slow down runoff; less curbing to promote runoff.
- expansion of riparian buffers.

New Business:

\*Tree of The Month: Clare would like to talk about a possible new project highlighting a tree each month and will present next month.

\*October Tree Walk: Clare and Jeff will lead the fall walk on October 12th at the Stonecrest Farm. Jeff had the information on the history of the farm and a list of the trees that he has identified. A Butternut stand on Christian St. was talked about and board members were encouraged to look for it.

\*EAB Presentation: It was decided that Karen will talk to Scott about securing the first-floor meeting room for our meeting on September 17th and then to advertise a presentation from Little Tree on the latest news on the Emerald Ash Borer at 7 pm and open to the public.

Suggestions for next meeting's agenda: Tree of the Month discussion, Tree ID walk preparations.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:07 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Clare Forseth

Signed By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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