

Tree Board Meeting Minutes
Town of Hartford Town Hall
October 15, 2019
Room 312, 6:00 p.m.

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, Deborah Milnes, Karen Watson, Chair

*Meeting called to order: 6:05

*Approval of minutes of September 17, 2019: Minutes were approved unanimously.

*Education: Current Trends & Practices: Karen shared Norway spruce cone and seeds and also trees that she noticed - especially a stand of black walnuts. Clare shared the reason tree leaves turn color. Jeff shared a beautiful ridge of trees in fall color.

*Walks: Over 30 attended the Stonecrest Farm tree ID and historical walk. Adding the historical part to the walk seemed to draw more people and the variety of trees were very interesting.

March Walk- Walk around Town of Hartford - Karen and Jeff leaders and Kathy will act as an intern. They will try to coordinate with the senior center and/or Hartford Historical Society for the history of trees in Hartford. Clare has a list of the trees from a past walk and will make up the booklet.

*Report from Liaison with Planning Board: The proposed trees on Mike Davidson's property between Cover and the building had to be removed due to objections from the Fire Department not leaving room for their trucks. The Villages has not kept their promise to finish their trail to the community above them and it is being looked into by a community person. Suggestion was made to write a position paper or vision statement about the importance of adding trees in parking lots/garages.

*Report from Preferred Landscaping Guidelines committee: Nothing to report but the committee will write the position paper mentioned above.

*Tree of the Month Project - Clare proposed a Tree of the Month project that would highlight a tree each month. She has a list of 22 potential candidates - mostly in the parks and schools. Clare, Kathy, and Karen will flesh out the program. Some ideas that came up: Announce the tree at Town Hall lobby. Get kids involved with handing out booklets that could be stamped when they visit the tree and answer a question about it. Laminate tree information to be attached to placard staked at tree. Park and Rec to advertise as well as list-serve and Town Hall Lobby. Start in January - maybe with pine at Data Man. Each Tree Board member could volunteer to pick a tree to research and advertise.

*Karen reported that the butternut trees on Christian Street are young trees and look like they have been planted. The board will continue to observe them and try to find out how they came to be planted.

New Business:

*Karen reports the nursery is looking good. She weeded and cut back some vegetation.

*Deborah has announced that she is stepping down effective December 2019. The board acknowledged and thanked her for her contributions to the Tree Board and her enthusiasm for the board's tree walks.

The board will advertise for a new member with a start date of January 2020.

Adjourn at 7:30

November Agenda: Nominations for offices

Respectfully submitted,
Clare Forseth

Signed by _____

Date_____

DRAFT