

TOWN OF WESTON  
TREE ADVISORY GROUP  
Minutes of March 31, 2021

ON LINE MEETING VIA ZOOM

Present: Lori Hess, Chair, Barbara Fullerton, Nina Danforth, Ed Recka , Jackie Jackson (DPW), Balaji Krishnaroorthy

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am.

1. General: No public comments. Six new members have been proposed for TAG and will be interviewed. Any associate members are appointed for 1 year and do not vote. Nina presented the information at the CPC meeting about the Butternut and Persimmon trees on the back of the Case Estate land. The trees need preservation work which was approved at the meeting, and will be presented at the town meeting for a vote.

Lands Sake will hold a community meeting tonight on the plan for new development at the garden with the addition of several buildings for equipment and education.

2. Arbor Day (April 30).

Nina presented information about planting at the rear of the Country School at a location that would be close enough for watering.

There may be six trees planted in a semi-shady spot provided by Chris Gonzales (Eversource): Dogwood, Redbud, Birch, evergreen.

Nina will be working with Ben Pollimer.

Jackie said that she is still interviewing for summer workers to help with watering the new trees. There is no new watering truck ready yet.

Barbara said that there will possibly be a drought this year; she will volunteer to help water the new trees if necessary.

Lori said that we need to hold a meeting after Arbor Day to discuss a plan for watering.

3. Drought update.

Boston Globe had an article on the drought conditions in Massachusetts. Our rainfall has been lower by 4.3 inches so far. When we have heavy spring rain the disease cycles in trees increase. Weston gets water from MWRA that has a better water supply than what is available elsewhere, such as the North shore.

Weston has the highest rate of water use in the state.

Balaji will keep track of the drought monitors for the area.

Lori will contact Charles Young in the Finance Office about arranging payment for the project.

We would plan to be installing the plants in the fall of this year.

#### 4. North Ave//Rt. 117 Tree Replanting

Lori said that there will be an upgrade of the wires and poles. 20 trees will be removed. Chris Gonzales and Tom Cullen reviewed the plans.

Originally 300 trees were identified for removal. There will be a new walk to look at the trees again. Four trees are black locust. Some trees are not in good shape. There will be tree pruning to allow for the poles and wires to fit. Chris Gonzales will be leaving the Eversource job.

#### 5. Case Park

The contract was signed with Tom Benjamin. We will now need to initiate the project with Benjamin. A design will be created to organize the planting.

Nina talked to Michelle Schuckel about the tulip tree to be removed at the end of April. We will see if Eversource can replace the tulip tree.

#### 6. Tree donation.

Nancy Fleming memorial tree. Kara Fleming wants to donate a tree in honor of Nancy to be installed on the town green near the Town Hall.

Nancy Bates - there is an old dogwood tree at Linwood Cemetery around which Nancy wants no heavy mowing. The idea is to save the old tree and endow money for the future.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 am.

The next meeting will be held on April 28 at 10 am.

Prepared by Barbara Fullerton