

WILTON TREE COMMITTEE

12 Sep 2018

Wilton Town Annex Conference Room

Present: L. Cherichetti; S. DiLoreto, P. Koellmer, N. Lee, K. Throckmorton, J. Algon

Excused: K. Meehan

I. CALL TO ORDER

K. Throckmorton called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

P. Koellmer moved and S. DiLoreto seconded approval of the minutes of the June 2018 Meeting, as submitted; they were approved 4-0-1.

III. TREE WARDEN REPORT

L. Cherichetti reported the Town has funded elimination of the three-year backlog. A work log has been put in place with DPW and Cherichetti posts the tasks which DPW then follows-up to accomplish. They are using See-Click-Fix, which automatically captures the location of the tree in question. Other than trees across the road, which are distributed to the Police Department, the rest go to DPW for attention.

IV. ONGOING BUSINESS

a. Center Tree Inventory and Plan:

- i. Bricks for the planted trees still need maintenance to clear them
- ii. P. Koellmer and K. Throckmorton met with the Paragon Management and they approved replacing all three of the trees in question. They agreed to cover the cost of removing them. Discussion on the replacement tree decorated for the holidays resulted in a consensus to plant an American Holly (*Ilex opaca*). K. Throckmorton will ask Mike Conklin to put the tree out for bid. The other two trees will be selected and planted in Spring. K. Throckmorton will relay this information to Joan, the Manager of Paragon Management.

b. Notable Tree List:

- i. The owners of 151 Skunk Rd. did apply for their two trees. Throckmorton and Cherichetti will photograph the trees. Throckmorton will also examine the maples at 183 Ridgefield Rd (the former Schlichting property currently under fund-raising for purchase by the Wilton Land Conservation Trust) as candidates for notable tree status. Throckmorton

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indicated she has a contact who could apply on behalf of the trees in the interim if the trees are found appropriate for this status.

c. Tree Maintenance:

- i. L. Cherichetti and N. Lee reviewed the trees in Wilton Center. They indicated there is a need to develop a specification for the height of trees in the Center. Many of them have lower branches needing pruning because they are low enough to interfere with pedestrians. They also mentioned that this maintenance was done once before using a grant with a shared cost between the owners and the DEEP. Throckmorton has letters to send to the property owners.

d. Tree Education Course:

- i. Margery Winters, Assistant Director of Roaring Brook Nature Center in Canton, CT will speak on 'Trees for Pollinators' on Tuesday, 13 March 2019 at the Library in the Brubeck Room. S. DiLoreto and J. Algon will arrange the PR for the talk to coordinate with the Community Canopy Project activities.

e. Open Positions on Tree Committee:

- i. None suggested.

f. Tree Pruning Reference Model:

- i. No activity.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. There is a new pest in CT that is affecting Oaks, the Two-Lined Chestnut Borer.
- b. Short discussion of Fall webworm and its non-destructive effect on trees.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICITY

a. Spring-Fall Newsletter Potential Topics:

- i. S. DiLoreto suggested an article on See-Click-Fix
- ii. J. Algon forwarded copies of two articles for consideration: an edited article that was provided to CACIWC for publication this Fall on the Pollinator Pathway, and an update on Kent Pond.

b. Community Canopy Project:

- i. S. DiLoreto will provide background information to all the Committee members on the Comm. Canopy Project. We will aim to hold the tree distribution in early May, 2019. J. Algon discussed the project with S. Knutson and the Wilton Garden Club has no difficulties with this timeline or with the

selling of trees near the time of their Plant Sale. The Garden Club will sell shrubs; they will discontinue sales of trees.

- ii. Timeline: articles starting in Fall Newsletter, then articles in papers and media beginning in February, early May distribution
- iii. Funding: Brice Cheney may have a source for some funding of trees; we will approach Eversource and others.

VII. TREE LEGISLATION:

- a. No activity

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

N. Lee moved and P. Koellmer seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting which passed 4-0-0; the meeting ended at 5:55 p.m.

The next Tree Committee meeting will be Wednesday 10 October 2018 at 5 p.m. at Town Annex unless otherwise indicated on the agenda.

19 Sep 2018, J. Algon