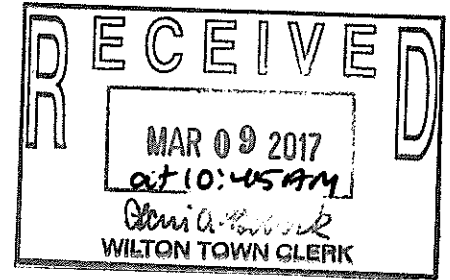


**WILTON TREE COMMITTEE**

Minutes

11 January 2017

Town Hall Annex, Meeting Room A



Present: Chair K. Throckmorton, S. DiLoreto, N. Lee, W. Meehan, J. Algon

Excused: P. Young

I. CALL TO ORDER

K. Throckmorton called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

W. Meehan moved and N. Lee seconded the approval of the minutes of the 12 October 2016 meeting with one correction to the spelling of Von Kleydorff. The minutes were approved 5-0-0.

III. TREE WARDEN REPORT

N. Lee reported that he and L. Cherichetti tagged for removal about 13 trees at the intersection of Ground Pine and DeForest Roads, in keeping with the DPW's concern about sight lines. W. Meehan recommended the Committee prepare an article explaining what the tagging means for the public to understand impending activity. The Committee determined that the tapes tagging the trees do indicate this, and no further action is needed.

IV. ONGOING BUSINESS

- a. Center Tree Plan Status: no activity
- b. Updating the Tree Inventory: no activity
- c. Notable Tree List: no activity
- d. Tree Maintenance Review for Wilton Center: no activity
- e. Red Oak at Veteran's Memorial Site: The red oak which was under discussion with S. Knutson of the Wilton Garden Club last month will be moved 10' to the west of its current position, as agreed with Ms. Knutson through correspondence over the past month. N. Lee said this will be accomplished in April, 2017. The existing Von Klydroff plaque will also be slightly relocated as previous discussed. S. DiLoreto suggested having the stump from the

columnar oak removed last year ground down. These activities will be coordinated before they are initiated.

- f. Tree for Barbara Quincy: N. Lee will contact Barbara's sons and J. Algon will check with the League of Women Voters to determine whether they will help fund this tree. The planting will be at the Arbor Day celebration.
- g. Upcoming annual events: There will not be a Norwalk Tree Festival this year. There will be a Wilton Go Green! Festival and the Tree Committee will plan to participate.
- h. America the Beautiful (ATB) Grant: M. Conklin is developing an ATB Grant application and provided a map of Schenck's Island to K. Throckmorton for the Tree Committee to prepare a list of trees to replant when the ash are removed this Spring. The ATB grant is for \$12K, with a matching requirement from the town.
  - i. There is a possibility of Norwalk River Watershed Assn (NRWA) Trout Unlimited (TU) can contribute to off-set the amount of matching money from the town.
  - ii. There is a strong encouragement from Chris Donnelley, State Forester to include Sweet Gum trees in the newly planted areas.
  - iii. K. Throckmorton said she is advocating topping, trimming and leaving ~50% of the ash as standing dead wood for habitat. The remainder will be chipped and spread.
  - iv. The new trees will be small container grown trees (10 or 15 gallon containers) and should be protected from deer rubbing with tree guards.
  - v. N. Lee indicated he may be able to get the trees at wholesale cost and he encouraged using trees in containers rather than bare root because they root faster. N. Lee will begin checking on availability and will aim to report his findings next week, so it can be included in the application.
  - vi. The Committee recommends nine species for the area: *Acer rubra* (15 gal), *Acer saccharinum* (15 gal), *Amelanchier canadensis* (10 gal), *Betula alleghaniensis* (10 gal), *Ilex opaca* (15 gal), *Liquidambar styraciflua* (15 gal), *Quercus bicolor* (15 gal), *Quercus rubra* (15 gal), and *Ulmus americana* (15 gal).
  - vii. The Committee will meet Sunday (15 January) to review and discuss the area where the trees will be removed and to identify the location of new plant material. The Committee

anticipates TU may be installing additional shrubs along the shoreline of *Ilex verticillata* and *Salix discolor*.

- i. The proposed education outline remains on the Agenda, but on hold.

V. TREE LEGISLATION

- a. No new legislation to discuss. N. Lee indicated he receives announcements from CTPA regularly which focus on new legislation and he then circulates these to K. Throckmorton to distribute to the Committee.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICITY

- a. S. DiLoreto took an assignment to develop the news article for Spring 2017.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Three Committee members need to be re-sworn for their new term: K. Throckmorton, N. Lee need to be re-sworn; W. Meehan completed this 11 January.
- b. Gift Tree at Horseshoe Pond: A. DeWare indicated she has been approached by someone who wants to have a tree planted at Horseshoe Pond in his wife's memory. DeWare indicated the donor is willing to spend \$1K for the tree, its installation and the brick that is associated, and wants to handle this through the Tree Committee. S. DiLoreto will discuss this with M. Conklin and the Committee will look at potential locations.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

B. Meehan moved and S. DiLoreto seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting; the motion was passed 5-0-0, and the meeting ended at 4:55 p.m.

**The next Tree Committee meeting will be Wednesday 8 February 2017 at 4 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex.**

14 January 2017, J. Algon

