



TREE COMMITTEE
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TOWN HALL
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, Connecticut 06897

WILTON TREE COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday July 8, 2020 – 6:00 pm
Teleconference Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Present: Jackie Algon, Suzanne Knutson, Peggy Van Acker, Kimberley Young, Susan DiLoreto, Lars Cherichetti

Excused: Scott MacQuarrie, Wayne Gura

- I. CALL TO ORDER – J. Algon called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The minutes of the June 13, 2020 meeting were approved. P. Van Acker motioned, and S. Knutson seconded, 5-0-0.
- III. TREE WARDEN REPORT – Lars Cherichetti
 1. The pruning and tree removal downtown was completed last week by Halfton Prael. This included removing lower limbs and pruning. We hope to have funding to continue this work next year.
 2. There are many dead trees along the roadsides that need to be removed. The Knapp Tree Company has been used for their removal.
 3. The three crabapple trees in front of Hunan Restaurant appear to be dying. Lars will check on these. The Tree Committee needs to decide what to do with bricks if trees die and are removed.
- IV. ONGOING BUSINESS
 1. Status of planting the oak tree - Jackie Algon wrote to Parks and Rec, but has not had a response. They have a meeting this week and Jackie will follow up with them since we need to coordinate plantings to ensure they do not interfere with lawn mowing, power or water lines.
 2. Development of tree tracking maintenance spreadsheet - Wayne Gura was not at the meeting. Lars Cherichetti will follow up with Wayne.
 3. Tree tags - We will try to install them in September. Peggy Van Acker and Kimberley Young will assist Jackie Algon.

4. Bricks - We have bricks that need to be matched with trees that need them. Lars will look at Jackie Algon's list and coordinate their placement in the fall.
5. Donation brochure - The brochure was edited to remove references to shrubs; it is ready for any final comments. Anne Djupetal has done an amazing job with the graphics. This brochure should be released in September.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Ash Tree Biocontrol - The University of Massachusetts Extension offered a webinar on Progress with Emerald Ash Borer. Dr. Juli Gould from MI has been researching the use of three species of Asian parasitic wasp to control the emerald ash borer (EAB).

These wasps attack a larval stage of EAB and appear to be effective. Lars Cherichetti commented that this is fascinating research. White Ash trees seem to have some resistance to the borer and the wasps work best with trees that fight back some. These wasps may be effective when combined with other control methods. Research is being done in the Midwest where certain criteria for the study exist. These criteria include; 25% of trees to be Ash, at least 40 acre sites are required and the trees must be made up of a diverse age group. Unfortunately we can not meet these criteria in Wilton. This research does give some optimism for control of the emerald ash borer.

VI. TREE LEGISLATION & LAWS - none to report

VII. COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLICITY

1. Next Newsletter – P. VanAcker will write an article highlighting good native shrubs. We will also include an introduction to the new donations program and a copy of the brochure.
2. Preparation of a webinar series on trees during Covid-19 lockdown – we can consider adding links to pertinent tree-related topics in the newsletter.

VIII. ADJOURN

P. Van Acker motioned and Suzanne Knutson seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 pm; approved 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted by Kimberley Young 7.9.20