

TREE COMMITTEE
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TOWN HALL
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, Connecticut 06897

WILTON TREE COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday November 18, 2020 – 6:00 pm
Teleconference Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Present: Jackie Algon, Suzanne Knutson, Peggy Van Acker, Wayne Gura, Kimberley Young, Susan DiLoreto, Joshua Cole

Excused: Lars Cherichetti

- I.
 - J. Algon called the meeting to order at 6:07pm
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The minutes of the October 14, 2020 meeting were approved. S. Knutson motioned, and W. Gura seconded.
The minutes of the October 20, 2020 special meeting were approved. S. Knutson, and P. Van Acker seconded.
- III. TREE WARDEN REPORT- None
- IV. ONGOING BUSINESS
 1. Status of planting the oak tree for the Tree Warden and the two trees for Alton Johnson– J. Algon looked into pricing for purchase and planting. We will purchase the two white oak trees from Tall Trees for \$725 and the Cornus Cherokee Brave from Copia for \$646. The dogwood will be planted to the left in front of the Center School building by Town Green and the two white oaks will be planted with the Tree Wardens oak at Merwin Meadows. S. Piersall will help for placement of the trees. P. Van Acker will help and P. Van Acker and J. Algon will find tree bags for watering the trees.
 2. Development of spreadsheet for tracking tree maintenance – W. Gura has tried to get input on a spreadsheet for Wilton. S. DiLoreto will give W. Gura the contact information for Chris Donnelly. L. Larkin has put in for Tree City Status and should hear back soon.
- V. New Business
 1. Reports from subcommittees - none

2. Selection of tree species/location for 2020 Tree Steward – the committee voted unanimously to nominate L. Craig for the 2020 Tree Steward.
3. Redeveloping “Right Tree Right Place” guidelines for public understanding under Climate Change conditions – J. Cole joined the meeting to continue to discuss BOS assignment for the Tree Committee. We have researched the various town ordinances in Greenwich, Darien, Westport, Weston and Ridgefield. The most extensive by far is the town ordinance from Greenwich. This report is very comprehensive and the town has their own enforcement officer. Ridgefield has their tree warden in charge of enforcement. A discussion continued on the merits of tree ordinances and enforcement. Education will be very important and S. Knutson has written an article on right tree, right place. Hopefully this article will be published during January-February. It could also be distributed via Good Morning Wilton, Wilton 411, E Alerts and the Tree Committee website. Tree Committee members agreed that the article should go out as soon as possible.

Tree Committee members should read through the different town ordinances and we will work on the compilation of our own ordinance at the December meeting.

4. Plant 100 trees/year – J. Algon will look into where we can order trees. We will have time to work on this in the future.

VI. TREE LEGISLATION & LAWS – none

VII. COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLICITY

1. Next newsletter – P. Van Acker’s article on barberry, *Berberis vulgaris* and winged burning bush, *Euonymus alatus*. Perhaps an article on Norway maple next?

VIII. ADJOURN

W. Gura motioned and P. Van Acker seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 pm, approved 6-0-1

Respectively submitted by Kimberley Young 11/19/20