

Wilton Tree Committee

Minutes

November 12, 2014

Town Hall Annex, Meeting Room A

Present: Chairman Kate Throckmorton; Susan Diloreto; Bill Meehan; Barbara Quincy; Paul Young, Tree Warden

1. Call to order
Kate called the meeting to order at 4:04 pm.
2. Approval of Minutes
The minutes of the October 8, 2014 meeting were approved as amended.
3. Tree Warden Report
Paul submitted his report and noted that healthy trees that create sightline problems are difficult to deal with. He greatly encourages the Committee to prepare a Significant Tree List, which would help in these kinds of situations, both on public and private land.
4. Ongoing Business
 - Center Tree Plan Status
All donated trees have been planted.
 - Updated Wilton Center Tree Map
Mike Conklin has received the new software to enable an update to the plan. Kate will meet with him in the next few weeks. It is hoped that the plan will be updated by April 2015.
 - Arbor Day
Date is April 24, 2015. Donated trees will be planted, Tree Steward Award will be presented and a proclamation will be read by the First Selectman.
 - Bench Installations
No progress yet on installing benches at Stop and Shop and the LWV adopt-a-spot.
 - Updating tree inventory with numbers and tree tags
Committee will install the tree tags on the Town Green after the meeting adjourns.
 - The Van Alstyne tree will be replaced in the Spring of 2015. Brick will be installed at that time. There is one new flowering tree donation from Kristin Begor.
5. Tree Legislation and Laws
No new legislation pending.

6. Communications and Publicity

- News article for Spring 2015
There was discussion regarding the creation of a Significant Tree List as a focus for a news article. Guidelines need to be established, such as girth (26 inches or more,) historic significance, examples of rare trees (i.e. walnut.) As the Tree Committee serves in an advisory capacity, this list would be for informational and educational purposes only. The public would be asked to contribute their suggestions
- Developing a Tree Education Course
Due to Junius' absence, discussion on this was deferred.
- NY Times article on the Asian Long Horned Beetle (10/1/2014)
Kate distributed this article, which promises to have devastating effects on Long Island, where clear cutting of trees is planned to try to contain the Beetle.

7. New Business

- Inspection and maintenance of Wilton Center trees and markers
Committee will adjourn to the Center immediately after the meeting to install updated bricks for planted trees (Dovel and Gassaway) and installation of tree tags. Kate divided the Center area into 3 parts, each of which will be monitored by members of the Committee.
- Tree Steward 2015
19 new trees will be planted on the Piersall Building property, which is owned by MCL Ventures. The committee is very pleased with this plan, and for the care and promotion of trees in the Center that MCL has exhibited.
- Tree City application 2015
Kate has worked with Liz to prepare the application and announced that everything is in order. Barbara will check on the previous year's sign and try to arrange installation.

8. Meeting was adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

The next meeting will be Wednesday December 10, 2014 at 4 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex.

11/12/14 Barbara Quincy