

Wilton Tree Committee Minutes
September 9 2015
Town Hall Annex, Meeting Room A

Present: Chairman Kate Throckmorton; Junius Brown; Lars Cherichetti; Nick Lee; Barbara Quincy; Paul Young, Tree Warden

I. Call to order

Kate called the meeting to order at 5:08 pm.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the June 2015 meeting were approved as amended.

III. Tree Warden Report

Paul submitted his report. There is no feedback from the highway department regarding work orders submitted, which results in the same trees being tagged over and over. Communication needs to improve so the Tree Warden knows what work has been done. Paul announced that the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) has been found in Wilton. Lars and Nick corroborate this finding. There was a consensus to tag Ash trees along town roads that are in decline. Lars and his daughter Helen will try to estimate the number of ash trees that will eventually have to be removed.

IV. Ongoing Business

a. Center Tree Plan Status

- i. Updated Wilton Center Tree Map – this is on hold for the present until more in-house help is available. Kate has a meeting planned with Liz Larkin and Mike Conklin. The new list will be by street addresses, not by tag number. Cost of replacement trees (only two have died) will be covered in the Conservation Commission budget.
- ii. Bench Installations – Bench opposite Stop and Shop (Peter Gaboriault) has been installed. West side (Pramer Fuel) still pending due to gas line construction.
- iii. Van Alstyne tree – has been replaced. Brick will be installed soon.
- iv. New tree donations –no recent tree donations
- v. Tree water Schedule for the fall – Kate will water again if necessary
- vi. Water bags - have been inspected and seem to be functioning properly. They must be removed by December.

b. Updating Tree Inventory with Numbers and Tree Tags – no new updates

- c. Significant Tree List – the Tomasetti Birch Tree (10 Basking Ridge Road) has been accepted as a candidate for the List and will be measured. Barbara suggested the Beech tree on Margaret Gregory’s property (169 Belden Hill Road) and Nick volunteered to speak to her son about it.

- V. Tree Legislation and Laws – none pending

- VI. Communications & Publicity – Work will be continuing on developing a Tree Education Course. Junius likes the idea of tree identity cards, which might be available through the National Horticultural Society. Another suggestion was a Wilton Center tree identity program that would go through the schools and could be combined with our Arbor Day Celebration. It was felt that a newspaper article will be needed to promote tree and bench donations and as a way to increase interest in tree identification. Kate recirculated Junius’ draft of Trees 101.

- VII. New Business
 - Pedestrian Bridge update - the bridge is in the process of being designed and we need to be kept aware of the progress.
 - Mike Conklin asked to participate in managing the trees on Schenck’s Island. Kate mentioned that there me be grant money we could apply for to fund maintenance on the Island.

- VIII. Site Walk – committee will go to Library to prune trees and review brick installations directly after the meeting.

- IX. Meeting was adjourned at 5:49 p.m. for the site walk.

The next meeting will be Wednesday October 14 at 5 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex.

9/19/15 Barbara Quincy