

Town of Amherst
Amherst Public Shade Tree Committee
September 10, 2013

Time: 4:00 to 6:00 PM

Location: Town Hall, First Floor Room

Present: Hope Crolius, Nonny Burack, Bob Erwin, Nancy Higgins, Henry Lappen, Michael Hutton-Woodland.

Absent: Linzy Rodriguez, who is stepping down.

Town of Amherst: Alan Snow

Agenda

Call to Order

Approval of June minutes - Nonny moves, Hope seconds. All vote to approve amended minutes.

Tree Warden's Report (Alan Snow) –

1. October 5 date for Blue Hills Ave. tree planting. Site visit conducted last week – sited 8 trees. Will work out details with neighbors. Tree planting demonstration to start the day.

2. September 28 – UMass Day of impact. Alan will have students fanning out to do work. Alan looking for assistance – freshen Switzer, Mill River, etc. Not sure about tree planting. (Hope Nancy, Michael can volunteer).

3. UMass Alumni will be fixing up Mill River on September 19. No help needed.

4. Wildwood School renovating courtyard – would like 2 trees there. 9 AM on September 23rd (Michael, Nonny, and Henry to help).

5. Successful Tree planting year. Main tree crew resigned, other one retired. 200 Trees planted this summer. 2 interns excellent; done for the school year. Guilford will offer one highway crew to help with tree planting starting this week. Up to 600 trees by year end. By law was started by an intern, Alan needs to submit by September 19 deadline for staff articles to go to Town Meeting. Goes before Town Meeting in the Fall begins November 4. Henry will talk for the article, Michael as back up.

Chair's Report (Hope Crolius)

New Members – 3 applications. Hope has the applications, will get to Nonny. Nonny will invite to October meeting. Various qualifications were discussed (IT, knows the community, diversity, public relations, rich friends, connections to students).

Calendars – will be distributed.

Grace Church – no information at this time.

Letter to Mass DOT – Michael will draft a letter.

Trees in Town that need pruning – Also mulching needs to be done in the spring. Hope will ask Alan if we have authority. Can Alan do a tree pruning workshop? February, March time frame.

Tree Steward training – October 19 Mass DCR 2 days Michael and Henry may attend Friday. Michael will send out agenda.

Kellogg Avenue – Barry Roberts is interested in discussing the future of Kellogg Avenue. Will be invited to our next meeting.

ANTS Project - Blue Hills Road is our new ANTS group. Tracy Zifian is the contact . 51 Blue Hills Road. Alan handed out a list of available trees. Plans for October 5, press releases to be sent out two weeks in advance. Meeting at 9:00 AM on October 5.

First Saturday Plantings (Bob Erwin)

- October location – Front lawn of former Survival Center (North Amherst School). Postponed until spring since we are planting on Blue Hills Avenue in October. Bob will begin to create a list for next year.

Projects:

- Downtown Tree Planters (Henry and Michael Hutton-Woodland)

Other Items not anticipated by the Chair:

Letter to Martha Coakley – Henry drafted the letter. This is a response to trees coming down in storms – enhanced tree trimming. Henry will see if it can go on DPW letterhead. Will bring to be signed next meeting.

List of tree requests – Michael will investigate whereabouts of list.

Wildwood School planting – above.

Treasurer's Report – on every agenda.

Adjournment: Nonny moves, Bob seconds. All in favor – Meeting adjourned at 5:37 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Michael Hutton-Woodland