

TREE COMMITTEE MINUTES
Newburyport Tree Committee

2011-November 10

Tree Warden is Andrew Lafferty, Deputy Director of Dept. of Public Services (DPS)
Present: Ed Taylor(ET), Dave Dylewski (DD), Jane Niebling (JN), Katie Haried (KH),
Santee Liversidge (SL), Paul Bevilacqua (PB)

Absent: Hugh Kelleher (HK), Jean Berger (JB)(Treasurer)
Guest: Jeff Esche (JE), Joyce Quinn (JQ)

Meeting convened at 7:07PM
Location: Children's Program Room, Newburyport Public Library

Reading of the Minutes

From October 11, 2011 meeting
It was moved and seconded with all in favor of accepting the minutes as amended.

Treasurer's Report

Jean Berger was absent.

TASK: JN will ask JB if she has everything she needs for a report and will she email report to Jane

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance Update

PB: Andy Port has had the Ordinance for review since July. Met two weeks ago with ET and PB. They were able to work through all but the last page. Andy Port said they'd have it by Monday last for meeting with Mayor by Tues for City Council meeting.
ET: thinks the tree committee should put together a presentation for the city council relative to the Ord.

TASK: PB and ET will revisit strategy and get in touch with Andy Port. PB will email Andy to confirm the schedule of the final review and the sending of the ord. to the City Council.

NEW BUSINESS

Grants

JE: got the Inventory grant delivered to the Mass. DCR and it was well received. The grant is asking for two interns.

JN: Biolabs grant is due in March, not Nov. TC thinks it's still a good idea. KH Green Street would be a good project for this grant.

TASK: Jane will bring some detailed information about this grant to the next meeting.

Tree Stewardship Weekend sponsored by DCR

JE attended (for the third year). Presentations were on recent climate disasters; an American chestnut presentation; insect infestation issues.
ET thinks we should reimburse people who attend from budget.
PB: we should be careful that funders understand that continuing education is part of our mission. It should be indicated and approved in our budget.

Tree Maintenance

DD has organized a pruning expedition for Sat. morning using the list we used last fall. This will include pulling stakes and pruning. Participants will take notes as we go along and give them to Jeff.

An email will be sent to Janice (DPW) to notify the city that we will be out there.
PB: Tree committee members are "deputized" by Andrew to prune when convenient. If we notify him he will send someone to pick up pruned tree material.
Next pruning day next Sat. Nov. 19.

TASK: HK should talk to Javier about what kind of agreement we have with him. Will he send a bill? When? Need an update on Javier. Have JB, the treasurer, contact Javier?

Tree Hearing on October 20th

See attached minutes by ET of Tree Hearing.
No tree has been removed; TC recommended that the Tree Warden negotiate a satisfactory solution which includes removal of the Silver Maple and the planting of replacement trees.

TASK: JN will ask ET for a copy.

One tree removed. Developer wants to put in four trees.
End result was removal of tree with compensation coming to the TC. See ET's notes here.
JE: visited the tree with DD. Doesn't think anything is wrong with the tree.
It was moved and seconded with all in favor of accepting ET'S minutes of the tree hearing.

Tree Moving Project

JE: collecting sites from Back Bay neighborhood. Sites for eight that can be moved this fall IF the city orders and receive the air spade in time. The tree spade blows dirt off of roots of the tree. More roots are saved this way.
Hopes to move eight this fall. AL promised use of city person, truck. Takes 20-40 minutes to dig up a small tree by contractor. About an hour per tree.
Charter school kids are surveying Back Bay this fall for sites.
The remainder of the transplanting will occur in March.

JE was asked to send the list of 53 trees to be transplanted to the planting committee. JE resent the list immediately after the meeting in an email that included an indication that the list had been sent previously.

Spring Planting

PB: if AL, Mayor and Tom Brann are here next month what do we want to discuss. We should look at trees next to the Firehouse before the next meeting.
DD: thinks the planting committee should have a plan for spring planting ready to show the Mayor.
KH wants the Mayor to know how valuable this \$20,000 is to the TC.
TC would like to talk about the possibility of using the old compost facility as a tree nursery for TC, though something would have to be done about the lack of water.

TASK: JN will ask HK to put agenda together for this meeting.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting with all in favor.
Meeting adjourned at 8: 40PM