

Tree Commission Minutes

July 14, 2016

7 pm Children's Activity Room
Newburyport Public Library

Meeting convened at 7 PM.

Tree Commissioners (TC) present: Crispin Miller (Chair) (**CM**), Sheila Taintor (Acting Secretary) (**ST**), Byron Getchell (**BG**), Jane Niebling (**JN**)

Members Absent: Paul Bevilacqua (Secretary) (**PB**), Paul Harrington (Vice Chair & Treasurer) (**PH**), David Dylewski (**DD**), Wayne Amaral (Tree Warden and Deputy Director/Director of Operations Department of Public Services) ex-officio (**WA**)

Open time for Residents There were no residents in attendance.

Report of the Secretary

The Minutes of the June 9 meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved.

Report of the Treasurer

CM presented an updated financial report developed in consultation with Treasurer **PH**. The report was approved unanimously.

CM mentioned that **PH** has graciously offered to relinquish his position as Treasurer and become an Alternate Member of the Commission once a qualified person is found to replace him. This person does not need to be an accountant but must be able to:

- read and understand financial spreadsheets
- create and change monthly and yearly Excel spreadsheets
- generate yearly budgets
- track invoices and donations to facilitate balancing accounts with DPS and the City auditor
- assist with writing and negotiating contracts

Report of the Tree Warden

1. 2016 Summary

80 High Hazard trees have been removed this year. The most recent trees are:

Arlington St #24	Marlboro St #48
Atwood St #17	Quill St
Dexter St #5	Tyng St #24
Hale St #30	Tyng St #49
Kent St #60	Washington St #62
Market St #33	

0 Non-High Hazard trees have been removed.

2. Green Street sidewalk construction is schedule to begin July 18, 2016. Fall tree planting should be planned.

Committee Reports

Planting and Pruning Committee

- 20 sites have been identified for the fall planting.
- **BG** will coordinate with **DD** and **PH** re: the number of trees to be planted on Green Street.
- Tim Heatwole is still studying the High Street planting project.

Old Business

Update: Tree Care

CM reported continued satisfaction with the watering being done by Mark Godfroy of Lady Tracey Ann, Inc.

Nursery trees

There are 8-10 healthy locust trees still in the Tree Nursery located in the Yard Waste Facility on Crow Lane.

CM suggested potting these young trees in the fall and using them next spring with RVCS students for an Arbor Day 2017 planting, perhaps in the Industrial Park. **ST** pointed out that any trees planted in the Industrial Park need to be tolerant of wet, boggy areas. One such species is alders.

FoNT

- **FoNT** will be manning a table at Old Fashioned Sunday on the Bartlett Mall during Yankee Homecoming. They will set up under a tent near the newly planted cherry tree, display our banner, give away trees and informational materials about **FoNT** and the Tree Commission, as well as giveaways for children.
- **FoNT** has budgeted the purchase of 4 additional cherry trees which it intends to plant on the Mall. It has asked Lisë Reid to check with the Bartlett Mall Commission to see if it will assume responsibility for watering these new trees for their first 2 years.

New Business

- Industrial Park. **CM** reported that Mayor Holaday was meeting shortly with state officials and local community experts about planting trees in the Industrial Park for the purpose of flood mitigation. **ST** volunteered to follow through and find out the status of this effort.
- **CM** shared a front page article from the 7/14 Daily News with photos of COW's proposed model of the waterfront, which did not include many trees. The **TC** approved **CM**'s request to send Councilor Jared Eigerman, chair of the Blue Ribbon Committee on

the Waterfront, an email on behalf of the TC offering TC help with the selection and placement of trees as plans progress.

The meeting adjourned at 8 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sheila Roney Taintor, Acting Secretary

Next meeting: Thursday August 11, 2016 at 7 PM
in the NPL Childrens' Activity Room