

**WESTPORT TREE BOARD MEETING, DECEMBER 20, 4:30 P.M.
WESTPORT TOWN HALL, ROOM 309**

ATTENDING: Dick Fincher, Al Gratrix, Peter Kolbrenner, Lori Meinke, Ed Picard, Dick Stein, Bruce Lindsay (Tree Warden). GUESTS: Lou Mall, Pam Klomberg.

Meeting called to order, 4:35 p.m.

Minutes of 11/21, 2017, approved and accepted.

Lillian Wadsworth Arboretum:

*Neighbor John Howe has offered a \$5,000 donation. In consultation with Westport Town Officials it was agreed that Westport Town would match this and other citizen donations. On this basis, the Tree Warden is writing a detailed site development plan and budget, 4 year implementation time frame.

*Several new trees planted including a spruce lighted for the Holiday season. Approximately 30 trees have been planted at the Arboretum this year.

Westport Evergreen, Inc. (WEI):

*Donations received to date, \$3,100. A formal ledger has been created to log and acknowledge gifts.

Tree Planting Update:

*In addition to Arboretum plantings, 60-70 trees have been planted throughout Westport this year, a mixture of tree types depending on location.

Baron's Hinoki Cypress Update:

*Plan is complete for this transplanting and being coordinated by the Tree Warden.

P&Z Plan Reviews:

*Several sites discussed, plans either being developed cooperatively, or, as needed, instructions on proper plantings have been given to site owners or landscape architects.

Board Duties:

*The Tree Warden has names of two possible board candidates, to be resolved within next sixty days.

*Peter Kolbrenner has organized the 2018 Tree Board Meeting schedule with town agents.

Notable Tree Update'

*Possible Turkey Oak adjacent to Burying Hill Beach. Dick Stein will also revisit the possible notable tree site on Old Hill Road (property ownership recently changed).

Other:

*New advisory board to Parks and Open Space to be coordinated with Tree Board Activities.

*Process being set up for formal fund-raising efforts, with focus on needs of LWA initially, as LWA is the blueprint for improvement of other town sites.

New Business:

*Concern expressed regarding clear-cutting by housing developers/contractors on tear-downs, which have resulted in many trees removed from the environment.

Meeting Adjourned, 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Dick Fincher, Lori Meinke.

NEXT MEETING, 1/24/2018, ROOM 309, WESTPORT TOWN HALL.