

Westport Tree Board Meeting, Wednesday May 15, 2019

Attendees: Tree Board: Dick Fincher, Dick Stein, Peter Kohlbrenner, Ed Picard, Monica Buesser

Approval of Minutes 4/17/2019

Westport Tree Ordinance: In process

Staples Interns: 2 Interns will work 9-2 Monday-Friday at LWA. Bruce will meet them on Monday 5/20/19 to instruct them of their duties. Various Tree Board members will oversee them on their workdays.

Arbor Day

Over 150 trees were given out at Town Hall. Flowering trees were preferred.

Storywalk installed at Arboretum

LWA sign unveiled. Jim Marpe attended.

Lillian Wadsworth Arboretum

SLOBS worked with Dick Stein. Planted Norway Spruce saplings along stone walls in Arboretum.

Work Contracts: Bruce has crew working now using grant money from Westport Evergreen.

Dick Stein requested signs (from town) for LWA at nearby intersections.

Fairfield Program "Roots to Shoots"

Sustainable Westport suggested that Tree Board look into Fairfield educational program "Roots to Shoots". An annual program that is run by Fairfield Forestry Committee. It is free and open to public. It was suggested that we partner with Fairfield to become part of educational program in future. This will be researched to determine feasibility.

P & Z

20-26 Morningside not reviewed – on hold (from town)

605 Post Road – completed

Oversight provisions – Dick Fincher working with Bruce Lindsay and P&Z to get all development to meet current landscape standards.

Other Business

Volvo parking lot – many dead trees, can we get them to put new trees in? or donate trees for spots?

Social media – We do not use social media for official Tree Board business

Beautification funds- requesting funds from town for tree planting on Post Road and or Winslow Park

Tree Board membership- Next meeting should include two new board members

Audience:

Morley Boyd: Questioned about trees and plantings at Barons South. Tree Board does not have oversight. This would be a Parks & Rec question.

John Sugs: West Parish Meeting House: Had questions about the Tree Board and Open Space. Tree Board did have Open Space responsibility but this has recently changed. Tree Board advised that as an important part of Westport history we would suggested a mowed path and an appropriate placard describing historical significance of site.

Helen Garten: There should be sensitivity of areas not zoned as parks.

Morley Boyd: Concerned about "below ground resources"