

WESTPORT TREE BOARD 1-15-2019

ATTENDEES: Dick Fincher, Dick Stein, Ed Picard, Alice Ely, Monica Buesser

AUDIENCE: Becky Newman

UPDATES

LWA – proceeding to get request for proposal for landscape plan

ARBOR DAY- 4/24/20: We will give trees away at town hall (3pm?). Types of trees TBD. Smaller flowering trees more desired by public in past. STORYWALK will be in place in LWA by Arbor Day.

TREE ORDINANCE – Dick F. met with Lou Mall and Jeff Weiser (RTMs) about ordinance. Dick F and Bruce will meet with RTM committee to explain why the Tree Board wants an ordinance. They (RTMs) are concerned that currently the Tree Warden does not work for the Parks Dept. or Ed. Department.

GRANTS AND GRANTS ACTIVITY –meeting with Peter Ratkiewich about grants. How can we as Tree Board apply for Reugg grant. Do we have specific Tree Board account? Westport Garden Club may also give funds for tree replacement.

2020 Meeting calendar – Still not approved

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY - SLOBS will be working at LWA 4/26

LWA Brochure – will print simple two sided handout. Will update as landscape plan is approved and implemented.

LWA Signage – Public Works said that Bruce has signs.

P & Z Activities –

323 – owner has been planting /will plant

Volvo – current plans short on plants/trees, Dick S has recommended changes

Rio Bravo Medical M – wants to remove 12 trees and only replace 1

Mercury Gas – has P&Z violations, want them to plant 3 trees – they say state will not allow 3rd tree. Some questions about state regulations.

Fresh Market – will take down oak tree in lot. They should be planting trees along front

FUTURE IDEAS – make parking spaces next to islands larger so you do not have to step into planting area, reduce size of trees that are required – large 4 inch caliper trees have a root ball that is too big to put into many spots. In future 2 – 3 inch caliper trees are smaller, but they will adapt quicker and have a better chance of survival.

NOTABLE TREES <http://oak.conncoll.edu:8080/notabletrees/> website lists notable trees in CT

OTHER ITEMS - Alice Ely's husband took some great photos at ice covered LWA

Becky Newman saw coyotes at Earthplace

