

Tree Board Meeting
Westport Town Hall, Room 201, 4:30pm
Thursday, September 24th, 2015

Meeting was called to order at 4:35pm.

In attendance: Bruce Lindsay (Tree Warden), Dick Stein, Ed Picard, Peter Kolbrener, Tricia Rubenstein, Karen Kleine

Absent; Peggy Sawyer and Gary Spector

In Audience: Lou Mall (RTM 2)

1. Minutes Approved: Ed motioned to approve, Dick seconded, all in favor.
2. "Lillian Wadsworth Arboretum" Update:
 - a. Naming: Per Bruce, the naming process is almost complete. Hopefully it will be on the Board of Selectmen's agenda in early October. Bruce will send us a copy of Lou Mall's application for the naming.
 - b. "Arboretum Fund" Update: Tricia is working on a trifold form that includes donation information. We should pass the form by Gail and Jim Marpe when it is complete. A press release will follow about the name change, plans for the space, and a reference to the form. Regarding raising funds, per Ed, a stone bench is about \$400 including engraving. Bruce will get a price from Joe Giunta. Ed will check with Swenson and P & Z about a sign. Discussion followed about gates and posts with most favoring granite posts acting as a threshold instead of a traditional gate.
 - c. Volunteers: We have 2 Eagle Scouts who have worked the trail and will probably be working with us again in the future. We will write a press release about the scouts and tie it to our fundraising efforts. On October 17th, the Service League of Boys (SLOBS) from Staples High School will work on the trails. The Garden Club is interested in working with us; we anticipate the best opportunity for them will be in the spring. Peter suggested creating a project for the Y's Men; something that does not include a lot of physical labor. Peter will try to get Bruce a speaking engagement with this group.
 - d. Carryover Funding: Bruce carried over 10K which has since been spent; The Care of Trees has been working all week.
3. Signage Concerns: Contractors and residents have been affixing signs to trees on public land, which is against the law. Bruce and Tricia will work on a humorous and informative press release about this.
4. Main St Update: Per Bruce the project is almost complete.
5. Old Business: Lewis Trees (for Eversource) is still working taking down trees and limbs around town near power lines. Compo Acres-the ZBA gave the contractor until Nov 15 to plant replacement trees in resident's yards. Residents cannot remove trees in the "right of way" without Bruce's approval or they will be fined.

At 5:59pm Ed motioned to adjourn, Tricia seconded, all in favor.

Next Meeting: Bruce may arrange for us to start our next meeting at the Arboretum at 4pm.