

Tree Committee

September 7, 2016, Mason Library

I. Lisa Bozzuto called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM. Present were members Beth Moser, Michael Wise and Hilda Banks Shapiro, and tree warden Michael Piretti.

II. Minutes of the meeting of August 3, 2016 were approved, after correcting the first item, to delete the first sentence, without objection.

III. Old business

A. Tree planting grant

Reimbursement has been received. Beth wrote an announcement, which appeared in the Berkshire Edge.

IV. New business

A. Recommended tree list

Bozzuto explained her proposed list, which is nearly all native trees, to replace the current list. Piretti suggested adding the crabapple, Sargent cherry and tupelo, which were in the plantings from a few years ago and are doing well. The committee concurred.

B. Lipton Energy

Piretti reported the gas station next to the 528 restaurant wants to replace some scraggly trees along the road, and asked for recommendations. These would not technically be town trees, but it is good that he is asking for advice and wants to replace the trees.

C. Brookside Gardens request

The requester, Nan Wile, is invited to the committee's next meeting. Perhaps when town trees elsewhere are removed, the replacements required by the new town bylaw could be put here. Guido's is removing some maples as part of its expansion; perhaps they could be approached about replacements across the street. The Tree Committee could consider sending a letter to Guido's, and the Planning Board might make some suggestions during site plan review.

D. Recruiting new members

Piretti has tried to recruit someone, who declined because of scheduling conflicts. A clear tree-planting mission could help recruit. Piretti hoped that a new DPW director might support using some of the current tree budget for planting.

V. Citizen speak time

There were no citizens to speak.

VI. General

A. The next meeting will be October 5, 2016.

The meeting adjourned without objection at 5:48 PM.

