

# WEST NEWBURY TREE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date and Place: 6:30 pm, Thursday, September 17, 2020, Zoom platform.

Members present: Fred Chanania, Jane Martin, Molly Hawkins, Francesca Pomerantz, Barbara Haack, Claudia Wood, Wayne Amaral

AGENDA ITEM	OUTCOME
1. Minutes review	Minutes of 8/20 meeting were approved with minor editorial changes
2. New Associate Member	Lionel Zupan was not present.
3. Update on Budget Proposal for Town Meeting Warrant	FC reports that the Selectmen have rejected the proposed tree planting budget. The warrant of the October town meeting is lean due to Covid-19 so we will try again in the Spring to get funding for tree planting.
4. Update on pending action Items from August meeting	JM spoke to Corinn Flaherty, library director. For any outdoor programs, participant numbers need to be below 10. No indoor programming is being held. Outdoor tree walks were ok'd by Paul Sevigny, Health Agent. JM and MH will plan outdoor children's programs Saturday or Monday afternoons. CW wrote EAB article for the Garden Club newsletter; followed up on John Elwell interview; found that elm tree for DPW is available from Nunan's.
5. Draft Tree Replacement Proposal by Francesca Pomerantz	FP recommends identifying specific goals, and discussion on goals ensued. Are there goals that other town committees and boards could contribute? Further research needed on what other MA municipalities have done to protect trees, and what they do to replace trees that are removed. Springfield identifies "high value" trees (very large, old trees) that cannot be removed without permission even on private property. Scenic road statutes offer little guidance on what can or cannot occur along the public rights of way on designated scenic roads. Tree Warden WA requested the Committee to draft guidance to assist him in implementing the scenic road provisions of Mass. Laws. One issue to be addressed is defining a "high value" tree in West Newbury for the guidance.
6. Tree Planting – finding funds	The Committee will need to find grants for purchasing trees for planting. Arbor Day Foundation may be a source of grants.
7. Action Items	JM and MH will meet to coordinate library programs FP and CW will investigate other tree policies around the commonwealth. FC will draft scenic road tree guidance for Committee review. FC will work on preparing Roster tree nominations for discussing and voting at next meeting.  Next meeting will be Thursday Oct 15, 2020 at 6:30 pm on Zoom platform.
Adjournment	7:45 PM