

Hartford Tree Board Meeting
March 16, 2021
5:00 p.m.

Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting

Mission: The Tree Board's mission is to plant and maintain public trees and advocate community tree stewardship.

Board Members present: Kathy Lamb, Chair, Clare Forseth, Jeff Arnold, Leif Smedman, Karen Watson, John Sherman

Also attending: Scott Hausler, Parks and Recreation Director, Dana Hazen, Hartford Tree Warden, David Crocco, Parks and Recreation liaison, Dan Frasier, Selectboard liaison.

Meeting Called to Order at 5:05 p.m.

Review and approval of February 16, 2021 Minutes: The minutes were approved unanimously.

Old Business:

- Tree of the Month, Clare: March tree of the month is the ash trees along Railroad Row in Veteran's Park. The April tree of the month will be the Katsura on Gates Street next to the church.
- Shade Tree Preservation Plan application, update/Jeff: Jeff has been in contact with Jaonne Garton from the Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program who is helping the board with our questions as we prepare to write our plan. He also has been in touch with Chris Holzwarth from Hartford Public Works Department as we define a tree in the right-of-way. All municipal trees (trees planted by the State or Town, or on Town property) will be included in the Shade Tree Preservation Plan. The board will now begin to define other trees that should be included in the plan such as heritage trees, landmark trees and/or aesthetic trees.

- EAB treatment revised estimates, Leif and Jeff: The Board decided to use the aquifer injection method for the larger ash trees in Veteran's Park and Ratcliffe Park. The Board decided to hire Timber Tenders, who had the lowest bid, to do the injections. Because the trees are in the town's parks, Scott will see how he can use his budget to pay for the services. Leif indicated that the State is very interested in how towns are preparing for the EAB. He felt that we should advertise our plans and help educate the public of the danger to our ash trees. Because we are using the injection method which is environmentally safe, Dana Hazen concurred. Dana will check to see if the targeted trees are healthy. Scott will work with Timber Tenders to be sure they are certified and insured. Leif is taking an online program for Tree Wardens and will share with the board what he learns.
- Soil for bare root stock, April 2021 (containers have been ordered): The containers are in Scott's office and he will order bags of soil when Dana hears that the trees have been shipped. It was recommended that extra nutrients not be added to pots in order not to shock the tree roots.
- Partnership with Dothan Brook School, related to Vermont Urban Community and Forestry Program Arbor Day Grant, deadline March 26th, Karen and Kathy: Kathy and Karen gave the Board a rough draft of their proposal. Their proposal is to work with Nicolette Raney, third grade teacher at DBS in setting up an outdoor classroom's maple sugaring operation by planting 2 sugar maples and purchasing a dozen spiles, covered buckets, and an arch with boiler pan to provide a farm-to-table maple syrup meal experience. The Hartford Area Career and Technology Center will aid in making the arch and parents will be asked to volunteer when needed. The Board was very enthusiastic and Kathy and Karen will continue to flesh out the details and submit the proposal.
- Reschedule meeting to scout out the first Tree ID Walk of 2021, Fairview Terrace, WRJ: Governor Scott thinks that the State will be able to be cautiously open by July 4th. If all goes well the Board will

plan their ID walk sometime in July or August. Dates will be considered later.

- Research replacement trees/shrubs in the parking lots at the Maxfield Sports Complex with Parks and Recreation: Dana will take a look at the trees in the parking lot, but the Board will table this project at the present.

Additional Discussion:

- Vermont Green Streets Guide: Leif brought up the possibility of working with Hannah Tyler, from the Public Works Department in future projects that would incorporate some of the green infrastructure ideas in the booklet, Vermont Green Streets Guide, A Resource For Planning And Building Green Infrastructure Within Our Communities. Karen and Clare have met with Hannah about the ideas in the booklet and left a copy with her. They were hoping that something creative could be done with South Main Street, but were told the plans were already underway and the street was too narrow to do anything with trees. Maybe another meeting should be planned with Hannah to see what projects are in the future.

Education: Current Trends and Practices: None discussed.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:10

Respectfully submitted,
Clare Forseth, Tree Board Secretary

Signed this 15th day of June, 2021.

