

## **APPROVED MINUTES**

# **Great Barrington Tree Committee Meeting Wednesday, January 11 2023, 5pm Great Barrington Town Hall**

Chairperson: Julie Anidjar

Vice-Chairperson: Michael Peretti

Secretary: Gary Frenkel

Also present:

- Mary Stephen, committee member

Approval of previous meeting's notes (Dec 21), unanimous approval from all members

### **I. Tree Warden Report**

- Removal request for 4 large pine tree dangerously close to homeowner on Berkshire Heights, other trees in vicinity have fallen recently. Likely will be removed within the month.

### **II. Tree City USA application**

- Michael submitted the application
- Timing on response TBD

### **III. Arbor Day 2023**

- Last Friday in April
- (Re-)introduce tree committee to the town - suggestions, best practices, tree lists, etc.
- Selectboard needs to proclaim that the town is observing Arbor Day
- Mason Library (and Friends of the GB Libraries) can help support with book focus, events at the library
- GB Land Conservancy, GB Agricultural Commission, local conservation charities, nurseries, arborists have all participated in the past
- Can we highlight some new plantings? Town Hall, Mason Library, Ramsdell Library (Housatonic) would be good locations
- River Walk upstream tree ID challenge likely to happen again too
- Suggestion box for citizens to suggest tree maintenance/plantings
- AI: Gary to request from town clerk that the Selectboard vote to officially recognize the observation Arbor Day
- AI: Mary to talk to Julia Ericsson, library committee member to see if we can determine a planting site
- AI: Michael to reach out to Tom Ingersall and Greg Ward about participating
- AI: Julie to reach out to Holly and Director of Mason Library to see if she can help facilitate event scheduling events at Mason Library
- AI: Gary to reach out to GB Land Conservatory (Christine Ward) may also be a good partner

### **IV. Discussion of long-term planting strategy for submission to DPW**

- Estimate \$1,000/tree

- \$40K will be requested for 2024 (\$20K DPW / \$20K town budget)
- Need to identify locations (street and parks) that we want to recommend plantings
- Action item: consider locations for 2024 for next meeting

V. Website for trees

- Interactive version of the recommended tree list
- AI: Gary to reach out to town clerk to see if we can build a website to showcase town trees

VI. Citizen speak / new business

- Suggest we move monthly TC meeting to Mason Library
- AI: Julie to ask if Feb 8 meeting can be held at Mason

VII Adjournment 5:46pm

**Next meeting: Wednesday, February 8, 2023, 5pm**

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Frenkel

Secretary, Great Barrington Tree Committee