

APPROVED MINUTES

Great Barrington Tree Committee Meeting Wednesday, February 8 2023, 5pm Mason Library

Chairperson: Julie Anidjar

Vice-Chairperson: Michael Peretti

Secretary: Gary Frenkel

Also present:

- Mary Stephen, committee member

Approval of previous meeting's notes (Jan 11), unanimous approval from all members

I. Tree Warden Report

- 2 pruning requests, 2 removals — work order sent out

II. Tree City USA application

- Julie received an email from Arbor Day Foundation. Since we missed last year, we need to backdate our membership application to maintain our status.
- Action Items:
 - Julie to participate in next selectboard meeting Mon Feb 13 with requests to proclaim Arbor Day in 2022 and pre-emptively for 2023

III. Arbor Day 2023 (Apr 28)

- Mary spoke to Lauren Clark Trustee from Ramsdell Library, suggesting a tree planting in honor of Arbor Day
- Lauren requested that we write a proposal or participate in next library trustee meeting Tue Feb 16; Julie will participate
- Can we partner with Mason Library on event day, perhaps 3-5pm?
- Handouts? e.g. tree list, seedling care instructions
- Food/drink? SoCo or other food sponsor?
- Can someone at the library partner with us? Julie to ask Samara or Lori (children's books)
- Action Items:
 - Michael to ask Joe:
 - Who maintains library grounds
 - Can we allocate budget
 - Tree Committee to recommend which trees to plant in front of Ramsdell Library
 - Michael to ask Greg Ward if Ward's can donate 100 seedlings
 - Julie to ask Samara or Lori (children's books) how we can partner on Arbor Day activities at the library

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

- Possible candidates:

- Everett St
 - Hollenbeck: need to plant smaller trees
 - Dewey Park?
- Action Items::
 - Tree Committee next meeting finalize candidate list
 - Tree Committee needs to provide Joe with planting requests for 2024

V. Website for trees

- Gary reviewed the proposal for the website
- Action Items:
 - Gary to present to town website managers

VI. Memorial / Donation / Heritage Trees

- Memorial trees: have we received any applications? Where do they go? How does town deal with other donations? Can we allow citizens to donate money for trees to the town?
- Consider a digital map of heritage trees (100+ years old)
- Action Items:
 - Gary to ask town clerk how the process works

VII Adjournment 5:50pm

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 8, 2023, 5pm

Respectfully submitted,
 Gary Frenkel
 Secretary, Great Barrington Tree Committee