

## **FINAL MINUTES**

# **Great Barrington Tree Committee Meeting Wednesday, May 10 2023, 5pm Mason Library**

Chairperson: Julie Anidjar

Vice-Chairperson: Michael Peretti

Secretary: Gary Frenkel (phone)

Also present:

- Mary Stephen, committee member
- Bobby Houston, new committee member

Approval of previous meeting's notes (Apr 5), unanimous approval from all committee members

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

- 1 work order to remove dead tree on Blue Hill Rd
- 2022 Tree City award banquet in Greenfield Tue Jun 6 9:30am-2pm

### **II. Funding – Post-Town Meeting discussion; Planning Board, CPA Grants**

- 2024 FY budget approved \$20,000 for planting (effective July 1)
- Need a walkthrough with Joe on how to access budget
- Tree Committee could potentially apply for CPA (Community Preservation Act) grant to plant/maintain additional trees - need to present to CPA board - heritage tree markers perhaps? Michael to learn more about process. Next funding cycle might not be until later this year.
- Could we also approach the planning board for funding? Attend meetings when possible (2nd Thursday of every month).

### **III. Post-Arbor Day event discussion**

- Held at Mason Library
- Gave away a few dozen white oak trees
- Display at Reed's cleaners
- Library support with books and activities for kids
- Next year: involve school, media blasts, online or asynchronous events

### **IV. Tree Planting Strategy with DPW / Requests**

- Need to work with Joe Aberdale (DPW) - Julie to invite Joe to next meeting
- Everett St prime candidate, Triplex parking lot?
- Julie created a map of possible planting locations, send to Gary
- Shade trees on Main St is our primary objective

### **V. Tree Lists, Memorial Trees, Donations – Continue discussion**

- Need to revise the form to improve the process
- Deep dive on this topic in next meeting

### **VI. Website update**

- Need to work with town to revise official list

- Can now add articles, please send to Gary
- We now have an email address [treecommittee@townofgb.org](mailto:treecommittee@townofgb.org) - could use for citizen q&a
- Can town hall publicize the website?

VII. New Committee Member application

- Welcome Bobby Houston!
- Nathasha Perlis application under review
- Brooke Davida also plans to apply

VIII. Citizen Speak

- N/A

IX. Adjournment: 5:50pm

Next meeting: Wed Jun 14, 5pm, Mason Library & Zoom

Submitted by:

Gary Frenkel

Secretary, Great Barrington Tree Committee