

FINAL MINUTES

Great Barrington Tree Committee Meeting Wednesday, August 9 2023, 5pm Mason Library

Chairperson: Julie Anidjar

Vice-Chairperson: Michael Peretti (not present)

Secretary: Gary Frenkel

Also present:

- Mary Stephen, committee member
- Bobby Houston, committee member
- Brooke Davida, committee member

Approval of previous meeting's notes (July 12), unanimous approval from all committee members

I. Tree Warden Report

- 1 work order processed: oak and poplar fell on Alford/Division and was removed
- Main St tree pruning
- Flowering pear tree was added to roundabout - not cleared with Tree Committee, not on approved tree list
- Action item: Julie to add to next meeting agenda: how work with town to include TC in planting decisions

II. Tree Planting Strategy, Continued –

a. Roundabout – instead of pear, could we replace with disease resistant elm?

b. Hollenbeck Avenue (GB)

- 2 scarlet oaks
- 2 lindens
- 1 northern red oak (north of gingko)
- 1 additional gingko

c. Main Street (GB) – at Steam and Siam Square – discuss failing shads

- Recommend replacing with 2 more callery pears

d. Taconic Avenue – St. James (GB)

- Bobby hasn't heard back from property owners

e. Castle Hill Avenue at Sumner Street (GB)

- Replace removed sugar maple - TBD, committee to revisit next meeting

Current map of planting sites:

<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/mapviewer/index.html?webmap=ff058413c4614237a989e763031a6dfa>

III. Call for additional locations to Tree Planting Plan

Taconic Lot - green islands are town property, used to be planted with paper birch, recommend planting more paper birch x3

IV. Tree List revision - ongoing

Gary presented latest version of recommended tree list, finalize next meeting, then send to town for approval

V. Citizen Speak

N/A

VI. New Business – Draft planting plan for DPW

- Healthy debate about choosing trees that are small enough to grow under power lines vs larger trees that require trimming to avoid power lines
- Pedro Pachano on planning board believes we can plant more trees on Stockbridge Rd
 - Action item: Julie to invite Pedro to next month's meeting
- Can we label trees on Main St, find a sponsor? Need to estimate cost.

VII. Adjournment, 5:57pm

Next meeting: Wed Sep 13, 5pm, Mason Library & Zoom

Submitted by:

Gary Frenkel

Secretary, Great Barrington Tree Committee