SHADE TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday 19 November 2020 via Zoom

Chair: Nancy Chisholm  
Minutes: Laura Beebe

Committee members attending: Nancy Chisholm, Christine Paxhia, Laura Beebe, Fred Taylor, Kristen Kleiman, Carol Stocker, Branch Lane, Milton Tree Warden and Ex-Officio committee member

Meeting called to order by Nancy at 7:06 p.m.

Approval of minutes: October 2020. Fred will submit to the Town Clerk.

Tree article for Milton Times. Carol Stocker will consider writing an article for the Milton Times to discuss storm damage to trees, the new Planning Board rules and regulations, and/or Jean Powers receiving a Proclamation. Carol will call Denny Swenson to ask about Tree Bylaw progress.

Discuss updating our recommended tree list. Carol Stocker and Kristen Kleiman reviewed highlights of a revised DPW tree list including heat, drought, and flood tolerant species, especially referencing those trees that are available to the town through the state tree contract. Branch Lane suggested reaching out to other nurseries and not limit choices to Amherst Nurseries. New to the list are more southerly trees like Willow Oak. STAC agrees that the new list should aim to diversify the tree species of the town’s street trees. STAC should confer with other municipalities for suggestions of small trees like hawthorns and crabapples and look at Philadelphia’s list of small trees since those trees would add diversity and represent a more southerly zone. Carol and Kristen will review Eversource’s 30 under 30 list and other tree lists at the next meeting, to finalize the update.

Annual presentation to the Select Board: Presentation to the Select Board will be either January 6 or January 13. Nancy will follow up to determine the date.

Tree tags: Nancy, Carol, Christine, and Fred met last month at the DPW to attach laminated tags to the new trees in the DPW yard. 80 trees still remain in the DPW lot; not all trees will get planted this fall. STAC discussed labeling small, medium and large trees with different colored tape to help the DPW determine which trees should go under power lines. Nancy will contact Chase to determine a good time to add the tape.

Open seats on STAC Board: STAC continues to look for more board members. Nancy Chisholm spoke with Select Board Chair Melinda Collins who will announce that STAC is seeking more board members. Beth Neville was suggested as a possibility. Kristen said she would be happy to remain on the committee, commuting from Duxbury. She said it does not seem to be contrary to town law. STAC members supported the idea. Nancy should let Melinda know.

Oak trees at Wakefield Estate: Regarding oak trees to be planted at Kelly Field, can the Wakefield Estate hold onto them for the winter or will they be moved to the DPW lot? Branch Lane will follow up.

Next meeting date: Wednesday, December 9, 7:00 pm via Zoom

Meeting adjourned: 7:55 pm.