

Milton Shade Tree Advisory Committee (STAC) Meeting Minutes

Thursday January 9, 2020. Location: Fuller Village Library.

Members present: Laura Beebe, Nancy Chisholm, Christine Paxhia, and Fred Taylor

Members absent: Jean Powers, Kristen Kleiman, Carol Stocker, and Branch Lane, Milton Tree Warden and Ex-Officio committee member

Called to order by Nancy: 7:03 pm

Approval of minutes: Minutes from 11/19/2019 approved. Fred will submit to Town Clerk

Neighborhood Association communication. Last November Laura sent to Bob Sweeney of the Milton Neighborhood Association, an electronic leaflet approved by STAC 11/19/2019, with incentives and instructions for requesting a street tree from the DPW. Sweeney emailed back that he had sent it out to the neighborhood groups. Christine volunteered to also post it on the Milton Neighbors Facebook page. Can we find out how if it was widely distributed by the neighborhood groups? Did it result in an uptick in tree requests to the DPW?

Tree tag update: Nancy obtained more laminated tree tags from Hillary Waite in case there were still some trees in the DPW yard that needed them; they could have all been planted already. Fred suggests we meet with the DPW employees that are planting the trees to see how things are working out. Nancy will check the status of the new trees in the DPW yard. Fred will contact the DPW to get in touch with the lead of the tree planting crew.

Milton Access Cable TV Spotlight Program. No contact with the program occurred since our last meeting. We still prefer that the interview take place outdoors to show the results of tree planting. Nancy will follow-up.

Tree remediation planting at Conneely site on Hillside and Parkwood. At our July meeting we discussed that two newly planted oak trees need to be replaced. No update was available at today's meeting. Need to follow-up with Carol Stocker.

Meeting with Select Board. STAC is scheduled to present January 22. Nancy will contact Kristen to see if she wants to take the lead since she drafted the FY2019 annual report. Laura and Fred will coordinate the presentation with Kristen. Nancy will try to get more information from Chase Berkeley, DPW director, about the 2020/2021 tree budget.

Tree care at Wolcott Woods. Laura had sent an email to Cheryl Tougias and Denny Swenson on the Planning Board asking who was monitoring compliance with the promised tree preservation and asking for STAC to be kept informed. She was told to contact Bill Clark and Joseph Prondak. Steve Ivis, consultant for the Conservation Commission will also be monitoring. The STAC agreed to a suggestion by Laura that we schedule a site walk for STAC, hopefully with Branch. Nancy will set up a site walk for early spring.

Tree Bylaw: No action has been taken by STAC or Denny Swenson to draft a bylaw. STAC decided to send a thorough bylaw from the town of Newton to Denny Swenson and Alex Whiteside as a starting draft. Nancy will download and send the Newton bylaw.

Earth Day/Arbor Day celebration. Laura said that the Wakefield Estate was gathering a group of local environmental groups to stage a celebration of the 50th anniversary of Earth Day. Not clear if STAC can officially participate in the planning but we would like to have the Town's Arbor Day celebration at the event in order to boost attendance. Laura will follow up.

Next meeting: Tuesday February 18 at 7 pm in Fuller Village Library.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.