

Town of Maynard
MAYNARD TREE COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, June 2, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Lee at 5:12pm via Zoom.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Leslie Bryant, Lee Caras, Orian Greene, and Steve Smith.
Justin Demarco, liaison non-voting member [arrived at 5:23pm]. ABSENT: Neil Pederson.
GUEST: Kate Wheeler

MOTION to approve the minutes of the April 28th meeting was made by Leslie. It was seconded by Steve and approved.

CURRENT ITEMS:

The Town has announced that Zoom meetings will end on June 15. After that time, a committee quorum must meet in person. The group decided that future meetings should be held at the picnic table behind Town Hall if that was acceptable. It would be ok with Justin. Lee will check with Becky Mosca to confirm the location.

Downtown Tree planting update: Steve reported that the 12 trees planted on Nason and Main Streets are doing well. He noted that two of the Nason Street trees, the Liquidambar styraciflua (#3 pit) and the Plantanus x acerfolia (#7 pit) ideally should have been planted with their root balls closer to ground level. He strongly recommended replanting them now; Justin did not agree and said that they would be inspected when they were re-mulched in the fall.
Kate noted that the tree stakes in the tree wells might be a problem for pedestrians. Justin said it was ok to paint the tops for improved visibility.

Downtown Tree watering update: Justin thanked everyone for their hard work, but said that the volunteers must continue watering without assistance from the DPW. Watering can be cut back to three times per week unless extremely hot weather reoccurs. The DPW will supply new hoses for the operation as needed. Leslie volunteered to take a photo at Aubuchon Hardware of the type needed and send it to Justin so that the DPW could purchased hoses there.

The Downtown Urban Arboretum tree tagging and walk: the Maynard Tree Corps volunteer group will sponsor the tagging and educational walk under a grant from the Maynard Cultural Council. Kate asked if the tree identification numbers from the Davey Tree Survey could be added to tags on trees that had assigned numbers (this does not apply to the newly-planted downtown trees since they have no survey numbers). Justin thought that adding the ID numbers could create a problem. Note: they could easily be added later to the tags. He favored adding a QR code to the tree tags now. The date for the tree tagging and walk is TBD.

Glenwood Cemetery Newton apple tree: Steve will develop a care plan.

By-Law Development: No progress to report as yet.

NEW BUSINESS:

Review of trees in the Naylor Court "Basin": Justin asked the Committee to send him photographs of trees that appear to show concerning conditions, e.g., a large Honeylocust that has rot at its base, and others that show bark removal scars.

Farmers' Market information table invitation: the group decided that this was a more appropriate activity for the Tree Corps to consider.

MEMBER COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS:

"Read Only" access to the Davey Tree Survey: Kate asked if a member of the Committee could have access to the Survey and to training in its use. Appropriate information from the survey would be shared with the Tree Corps at the Commission's discretion on an as-needed basis. Justin didn't think access and training were covered in the Town contract with Davey, but said he would ask his Davey representative to confirm contract details.

The meeting adjourned at 6:19 pm.

UPCOMING MEETING: June/ 2021.