

Draft Minutes

Tuesday, February 21, 2023, 5:00 PM

Location: Waterbury Public Library

Present: Jane Brown, presiding, Steve Lotspeich, Mike Loschiavo, Stuart Whitney

1. Agenda Modifications: The agenda was approved as drafted.
2. Public comments and announcements: none.
3. Review and approval, of minutes: November 15, 2023 and December 13, 2023. Both reviewed individually and unanimously approved.
4. Update on Tree Care Ordinance for Tree City USA designation: Plan to meet with Selectboard in early April. Currently 9 cities in Vermont hold such distinction: 6 in Chittenden County, then Montpelier, Hartford and Middlebury.
5. Fruit and Nut Tree Grant: \$700 awarded from Vermont Garden Network. Plan is to plant total of 8 dwarf/semi dwarf potted trees: 2 pear, 2 plum, 2 early/2 late producing apple. Evergreen Gardens to supply. Map indicating placement along ridge below community gardens. Branch Out Burlington, plan is to order 5 River Birch and 5 Swamp White Oak bare root trees and plant in wetland area at entrance to Disc Golf course in the Center. April 19, 2023 pick-up in Burlington.
6. Tree Committee 2023 priorities: Pruning workshop with Caldwell Clark discussed. Better Connections Project: Waterbury Center Overhaul Assessment and Stormwater study and management proposed. Steve to follow.
7. Town Budget: \$7,000 allotted for planting, maintenance, and removal in conjunction with highway department discussed. Ash tree treatment against Emerald Ash Borer included. There are 5 on South Main Street and a few more in Hope Cemetery and along Hope Davey that have received treatment in past and are now due again. Ash trees to be assessed in May once leaves appear. Mike Roche will treat by injection.
8. Future Leadership of Tree Committee: Jane Brown agreed to Chair committee. Steve is planning on a March 18, 2023 retirement and move out of Waterbury by late May. Has offered to stay on part-time to orient/ support transition for his replacement. The committee is actively seeking new members to replace vacancies. Mike Loschiavo expressed interest in taking over as Tree Warden when Steve retires. Celia Clark, Highway Supervisor will be invited to become Deputy Tree Warden.
9. Next Meeting: March 21, 2023 at 5:00 PM.
10. Adjournment at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stuart Whitney