

Minutes of Shade Tree Commission Meeting Wednesday, March 3, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairman Richard Prentice.

Present were: John Winiarski, Phil Cashman, Bruce Graver, Richard Prentice, Mark Alpert and John Lepper, Tree Warden.

ITEM 1 - PUBLIC COMMENTS - There was no one wishing to speak.

ITEM 2 - Removals

- a. Wethersfield High School - crabapple tree - 5/0 to remove
- b. 31 Kingston Street - maple tree - 5/0 to remove
- c. Kingston Street - small tree and vines - 5/0 to remove
- d. 681 Folly Brook Blvd. - pine tree next to driveway - 3/2 prune only
- e. Keeney Center - 2 cherry trees - 5/0 to remove
- f. Solomon Welles House - apple tree - 4/1 to remove

ITEM 3 - Minutes - [Minutes of February 4, 2004 meeting](#) were approved as presented.

ITEM 4 - Communications

- a. John Whittles, 66 Church Street, called concerning elm scheduled for removal in front of his house. Requested a replacement be planted.
- b. Letter from Chris Donnelly, Urban Forester, Division of Forestry, Conn DEP acknowledging Town's application for Tree City USA recertification.
- c. Tree Warden sent memo to Town Manager requesting funds for a consultant to evaluate tree damage and loss on Nott Street and Westlook.
- d. Town Manager's office issued a news release relative to planting trees and shrubs on Town property without permission of Tree Warden. Release was carried by the "Courant", "Wethersfield Life" and "The Post".

ITEM 5- Tree Warden's Report

- a. Walked proposed MDC sewer project site through Tanglewood Open Space with Richard O'Donnell, L.S. Survey Party Chief, MDC. Purpose of walk was to scope out the site and get an estimate on number of trees to be harvested.
- b. Establish ownership of a tree on Wolcott Hill Road for an arborist hired to clear the site for a new building.
- c. Prepared and submitted 2004/2005 budget request.
- d. Shared with the Commission the Town Assessor's Grand List and Property Reevaluation Reports for 2003.

ITEM 6- Old Business

- a. Spring Planting Plans - Budget dilemma has prevented us from buying trees for spring planting. Tree Warden did get assurance from Mike Turner, Director of Public Works, that our match for ATB Grant money will be matched. The trees for this project have been ordered. Arbor Day tree will be paid for by Wethersfield Village Improvement Association. President of WVIA will ask her organization to fund some additional trees. Commissioner Graver made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cashman, that money be taken from the Tree Fund to cover purchase of trees Town is obligated to in mitigation projects. The motion was approved unanimously.
- b. Chairman Prentice reported he is gathering data for a projection of what the Town's Urban Forest may look like in the future based on number of trees harvested vs. number planted.

ITEM 7- New Business - No new business was introduced.

Having no further business to conduct, the Commission meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John C. Lepper, CTW
Tree Warden/Secretary Pro-Tem