

Winthrop Tree Committee Meeting
September 2024 Minutes
Meeting September 9, 2024

6 PM

Tree Committee in attendance

Chris Aiello Chair
Paul O'Donnell Tree Warden
Tim Duplin Member
Tom Derderian Member
Joanne Hillman Member
Marie Wynne Member

Minutes from the June Tree Committee Meeting were voted and accepted.

Discussion of 2024 Tree Plan (final numbers of trees may fluctuate due to the Revere Street TIP Project

Tim Duplin looked at 2 trees on Tileston, both Norway Maples, both trees have severe cracks and one with a vertical crack poses danger. He requested that the Tree Warden take it down, however there is now a stipulation that the Town Manager needs to look at any tree before it is removed.

The subject of a Water Truck was once again raised and it would appear that we do have such a truck, which is an old DPW Truck which has been used to water trees as water is a serious issue with new tree plantings. However, it would appear that at this time with many vacant positions in the DPW, there is not the availability of anyone to actually water trees on a town wide basis.

Tim Duplin has a water tank and is willing to water some trees but needs a small pump in order to do so. There was conversation around having the Town reimburse him for the purchase of same or possibly to approach the

MWRA to see if they have such a pump and are willing to gift or loan it. Tim would store the empty water tank near our tree nursery.

The Chairman asked for further assessment of tree plantings.

Pauline Street - Tim Duplin volunteered

Shirley Street - Paul O'Donnel and Chris Aiello

Crest Ave. to Revere St as well as Grovers Ave and Beach Street - Paul O'Donnel and Tim Duplin

Tim Duplin feels that there is opportunity to plant trees behind the High School at Veterans Field. Trees can be planted just inside the guard rail for further protection. Excellent place for larger trees as there are no wires and no sidewalk.

Joanne Hillman talked about the Memorial Tree Program and the Memorial Bench Program at Deer Island and wondered if perhaps there could be a concerted effort to plant trees instead of more benches (of which there are many).

Someone suggested that the Town Manager could push out the idea that Memorial Trees could be planted around the ballpark. This idea may have to go through the Memorial Committee first.

The problem with Tree Memorials is that there is an ordinance that says you can't affix anything to a tree (such as a placque with someone's name) This would need to come out of the ordinance before a big push in this direction.

Tree survival in parks and cemeteries is more viable than street trees and perhaps there should be more attention paid to those areas.

Tom Derderian said that expanding our tree nursery will be necessary in the near future.

Tom Derderian announced that Tony Marino (Town Manager) has asked him to become the next Tree Warden. He will need to get Arbor Recertification. If he does become the Tree Warden, he can no longer be a voting member of the Tree Committee.

Next Meeting will be October 21, 2024 at 6 pm.