

Town of Maynard
MAYNARD TREE COMMITTEE MEETING
Held Remotely Maynard, MA 01754
Wednesday, February 16, 2022 5PM

Members Present: Lee Caras, Neil Pederson, Orian Greene, Leslie Bryant, Steve Smith

Liaison Non-voting Members Present: Justin DeMarco

Additional Attendees: Kate Wheeler, Danny Schissler, Julia Miller

I. Call Meeting to Order

Meeting called to order at 5:07 by Lee

II. Approve Minutes of previous meeting:

Jan 12, 2022

- Motion to approve minutes by Leslie; Seconded by Lee; and approved by all

III. Current Items:

- Draft memo to the Planning Board regarding a suggested update to the Planning Board Landscape Regulations as amended July 28, 2015
 - o [EXHIBITS: 1- draft memo distributed 2- PB Landscape and Regulations found on the Town website under Planning Board "Resources"]
 - o Have to table as not all members are here
- Bylaw project-update
 - o Substantial progress has been made.
 - o Aiming to get it on the Fall Town Meeting agenda
- Maynard High School tree project for Arbor Day - update & confirm parties involved
 - o Steve got the plans for the landscaping
 - o Kate, Neil, Lee, and Jamie met at the high school
 - o Jamie was hoping for a tree to be planted at the entrance in front of the practice field, but spot gets plowed and not too likely that there is a water source
 - o We need to find a likely spot with a water source to plant a tree and then start the process for obtaining permission to plant and obtaining a tree, etc.
 - Got to get permission from the school
 - Need involvement from the superintendent's office, Brian Haas, needs to be secured in writing and then the DPW can get involved
 - o Need permission for planting
 - o Need name and contact for site manager to begin the process

- Justin suggests getting the tree delivered and installed like last time
 - Maybe up front near the school, island between visitor parking and bus drop off; might not be too much of a logistical problem
 - Targeting Saturday, April 30th for the ceremony
 - Deciduous trees start coming into the nurseries around mid March
 - Julia Miller – programs operation manager sent an email saying they want us to apply for the Tree City USA designation; seems like the 2021 submission was not completed
 - Julia would like to spread the word that we are a Tree City
 - Needed to be recognized:
 - Tree board or department
 - Tree care ordinance
 - Observation proclamation
 - Community forestry budget of at least \$2/capita
- Glenwood Cemetery tree project
 - The 2001 DCR study was a preliminary overview and visual assessment; like a feasibility study
 - Tree inventory included Glenwood
 - Vernal pools and wetlands in the cemetery; covers about 15% of the landscape; no plans to impact or alter them
 - A lot of the upper level can be planted as about 95% of the burial lots have been utilized
 - Running out of space in the cemetery as a whole, so expect potentially big changes in the next 10 years
 - Best places to plant are the ends of the upper roads
 - Water sources there are functioning
 - Grant possibilities for current assessment and restoration planting plan-
 - Massachusetts Preservation Project Fund – could restore towards initial conditions, but we do not qualify
 - Need a preservation restriction
 - Need a matching funding grant
 - Community Preservation Conservation
 - If we focus on the older part, could get a funds for a feasibility study
 - Like, the keystone is missing a good bit of mortar
 - Likely the best source to restore original conditions
 - Combine with the Historical Commission to make a stronger case and Historical Society will be made much stronger
 - Deadline is Fall, Nov 1
 - DCR ranks grants higher for public shade tree
 - Maybe the front side along Parker Street is possible to shade along the street

IV. New Business:

- Update from our Tree Warden, Justin DeMarco: Town matters of importance to the Committee
 - o New elementary school project starting; major project concerning the town
 - Some soil boring has taken place
 - Historical Commission has offered information about dumping and such
 - Not technically was a landfill
- Crowe Park/Green Meadow School forest arboretum ID project
 - o A Maynard Tree Corps project
 - o The patch of woods between visitor parking lot and Green Meadow
 - o Tree Corps would like to tag and ID trees like the Downtown Arboretum
 - o Who does the Corps approach to get permission to start this project?
 - Public property, but the GM driveway is not a right-of-way
 - Crowe Park is town and school property
 - Recommendation: acquire permission from both the superintendent office and Select Board to go forward on this project
 - o Area was previously under Select Board supervision
 - o Maybe could make a kiosk
 - Cannot put signs in the ground next to the trees
 - Cannot nail signs into the trees
- 2022 term for Committee members
 - o Orian Greene has resigned, so will need a new member.
 - o Confirmation from town clerk that Jamie is a voting member.
- Establish regular monthly meeting date & time - 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5pm?
 - o Is this agreeable?
 - o Seems to be for all members
- Annual Committee report to Town Administrator
 - o We put together a one page report
 - o Justin offered to add it to the DPW report as our committee is not required to submit a report
- Tree Corps proposal for downtown street tree planting for 2022
 - o Kate Wheeler reports about a draft idea plan to plant trees across from the cinema
 - o Would like to meet with Justin to learn more about the site
 - o That site might not be the highest need

- Tree planting there with plans for the old fire station might be a part of mitigation

Member/public comments

V. Adjournment.

- Motion to adjourn: Steve, Seconded by Leslie
- Meeting adjourned at 6:32 pm

UPCOMING MEETING: March 16, 2022 at 5 pm