

MINUTES OF SHADE TREE COMMISSION MEETING WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Bruce Graver.

Present were: Phil Cashman, John Winiarski, Bruce Graver, Mark Alpert and Tree Warden, John Lepper. One Commission position remains vacant.

ITEM 1 - Public Comments - None

ITEM 2 - Removals

From March 1, 2007 to November 30, 2007, 135 trees have been removed by Town, Conn. Dot and CL&P.

ITEM 3 - [Minutes of March 7, 2007 meeting](#) were approved.

ITEM 4 - Communication

- A. Call from John Silva, 42 Cedar Brook, requesting ownership determination.
- B. Call from Judy Parker and Ingrid Boelhouwer concerned about tree scheduled for removal at 75 Pine Lane.
- C. Call from Lisa Bowman, Caldwell Banker Realty concerning stumps at her listing corner of Wolcott Hill and Dudley.
- D. Call from Mrs. Pool, 64 Dudley, concerning a tree that is splitting.
- E. Call from Diane Casa, 100 Clearfield, concerning trees in right of way next to their house.
- F. Call from Phyllis McKelvie, 98 Hartford Ave., requesting trees to be planted.
- G. Call from Mazzarella, 261 Wolcott Hill, requesting planting of trees in front of her house.
- H. Call from 8 Fairview for determination of ownership.
- I. Call from Kay Diamond, Mapleside, requesting to know her rights relative to trees in her yard.
- J. Letter to Robert Boyer confirming his ownership of tree and right to remove it.
- K. Letter from Connecticut Natural Gas concerning proposed construction of gas lines on Chamberlain Road and Stillman Walk, Nott St.
- L. Letter to Sebastian Mazzarella, 261 Wolcott Hill, ordering removal of unauthorized trees from right of way.
- M. Letter from Linda Case, 103 Park Ave, objecting to scheduled removal of trees on Nott St. at bike path.
- N. Letter from Beth Ann Chase, 26 Holly Lane, concerning privately owned hazardous tree abutting her property.
- O. Memo from Chris Shepard, Wethersfield Nature Center, requesting logs and branches for animal exhibits.
- P. Letter to Linda Case addressing her concerns for trees on Nott St.
- Q. Letter from DEP Division of Forestry announcing availability of two grants.
- R. Letter to Beacon Sales requesting reimbursement for damage repair to Spruce on Marmor Court.
- S. Memo from Don Moisa, Town Engineering Department, outlining summer paving schedule.
- T. Letters of thanks and acknowledgement to donors of memorial trees.
- U. Memo to Town Manager relative to 2007 tree planting schedule.
- V. Letter to Linda Pacillea, 58 Cumberland, ordering trees to be removed from right of way.
- W. Letter to Phyllis McKelvie, 98 Hartford Ave., ordering removal of (2) unauthorized Maples from right of way.
- X. Call from George Rhue, Cloverdale Circle, concerning trees in open space next door to him.
- Y. Call from resident at 400 Hartford Ave to examine trees in right of way.
- Z. Call from Mr. George, 331 Hartford Ave., concerned about condition of tree in front of his house.
- AA. Call from Sandra Kendrick, 194 Forest Drive, needs determination of ownership on several trees.
- AB. Call from 156 Beverly, determination of ownership.
- AC. Call from Toni Golia, 152 Wolcott Hill, concerned about Sycamore in right of way.
- AD. Call from Sandra Latina, 98 Hillcrest, concerned about Silver Maple in right of way.
- AE. Call from Hilda La Rosa, 53 North Brick Lane, problem with neighbor's tree.

- AF. Call from 149 Rutledge problems with neighbor's tree.
- AG. Call from Judy Libby, Ridge Road, concerned about tree in front of her house.
- AH. Call from Ray Spellman, 108 Mapleside, concerned about Pine tree in front of his house.
- AI. Request from Don Moisa to inspect a tree at 72 Hillcrest relative to roots breaking driveway apron.
- AJ. Call from Gerard Stuart, 59 Meadowgate, limbs from Millwoods hanging over his shed.
- AK. Call concerning larva in tree on Hartford Ave.
- AL. Call from Phyllis McKelvie, requesting trees on Hartford Ave.
- AM. Collection letter to Westpro for damage to Sycamore at Solomon Wells.
- AN. Collection letter to Glenda Lara for removal of trees on Broad Street.
- AO. Memo to manager expressing no knowledge of trees cut at Little Red School House. Order was issued by Mike Turner.
- AP. Call from resident at 40 Lorraine Road commending tree crew for nice job they did removing tree at that site.
- AQ. Letters from Linda Case concerning tree removals.
- AR. Letter of commendation to tree crew from Newington resident.

ITEM 5 - Tree Warden's Report

- A. Responded to all requests for tree ownership determination. Some cases referred to Engineering.
- B. Investigated tree removal complaint from Parker and Boelhouwer. Determined Robert Boyer was owner.
- C. Responded to Lisa Bowman, Caldwell Banker Realty, concerning stump removals. Stump machine is inoperative.
- D. Investigated Mrs. Pool's concern for tree splitting at 64 Dudley Rd. Ordered tree removed.
- E. Examined trees in right of way next to 100 Clearfield.
- F. Responded to request for tree planting at 98 Hartford Ave. Too late for this year, will look at 2008.
- G. Responded to Mrs. Mazzarella, 261 Wolcott Hill as to why trees had not been planted. Utility companies had problems with location.
- H. Advised Kay Diamond, Mapleside Drive, relative to her ownership rights.
- I. Investigated CNG's proposed installation sites.
- J. Responded to Linda Case's concerns relative to removal of at risk trees on Nott St. at bike path.
- K. Made arrangements to provide wood to Nature Center.
- L. Investigated damage to Colorado Blue Spruce on Marmor Court. Sent bill for cost of cure to Beacon Sales. Bill has been paid.
- M. Checked all streets scheduled for resurfacing to identify possible tree conflicts.
- N. Investigated unauthorized trees planted at 59 Cumberland Ave and ordered their removal.
- O. Inspected trees on Cloverdale Opens Space at request of George Rhue. Ordered several trees pruned.
- P. Inspected Sycamore at 152 Wolcott Hill. Found no reason to remove.
- Q. Inspected Silver Maple at 98 Hillcrest.
- R. Inspected tree at 76 Hillcrest at request of Engineering. Owner looking for new driveway apron.
- S. Responded to request from Gerard Stuart, 59 Meadowgate, to inspect limbs from Millwoods hanging over his property. Ordered limbs pruned.
- T. Investigated complaint from Lasher Court about trees from Millwoods falling on their property. Ordered them removed.
- U. Inspected tree on Ridge Road at request of Judy Libby.
- V. Investigated complaint from Ray Spellman, Mapleside Drive, that Town tree was breaking up road.
- W. Respond to a number of complaints about neighbors trees.
- X. Investigated report of unauthorized tree cutting on Broad Street.
- Y. Field tested i-Tree Storm Damage Assessment program with GIS Manager.
- Z. Updated "Memorial and Commemorative Tree Book".
- AA. Coordinated with CL&P contractors on line clearing projects.
- AB. Attended New England Municipal Tree Academy.
- AC. Investigated damage to vehicle and shed caused by wind throw on Hartford Ave.
- AD. Purchased trees.
- AE. Participated in planting trees.

- AF. Participated in Arbor Day program.
- AG. Assisted Emerson Williams and Charles Wright Schools with tree planting plans.
- AH. Attended Tree Warden's Association annual meeting and conference.
- AI. Attended Connecticut Tree Protective Association workshop and summer conference.
- AJ. Attended Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station Field Day at Lockwood Research Farm.
- AK. Prepared Tree Commission 2006-2007 Annual Report.
- AL. Ordered unauthorized apple tree removed from Prison Cemetery and a Maple from Cove Park.
- AM. Inspected and condemned several trees at Willard Pool.
- AN. Arranged for CL&P to remove vines and tree encroaching on electric wires at Millwoods.
- AO. Investigated complaint on Main Street of branches overhanging residence.
- AP. Attended Connecticut Tree Protective Association Workshop in Elizabeth Park.
- AQ. Investigated damage to Sycamore at Solomon Wells House that was caused by Westpro. Sent bill for Cost of Cure.
- AR. Issued warning to landscaper pruning our trees on Highland St.
- AS. Attended Emergency Management training session.
- AT. Attended a GIS Seminar.
- AU. Attended Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station Field Day at Valley Laboratory.
- AV. Met with Chris Shepard to review long range plans for planting at Nature Center.
- AW. Attended Tree Warden's Association fall workshop.
- AX. Testified before Town Council on their challenge to CGS Sect. 23-59 "Duties and Powers of Tree Wardens."
- AY. Investigated clearing of Town own land on Railroad Place.
- AZ. Prepared landscape plan for Railroad Place property.
- BA. Attended Connecticut Urban Forest Council Annual Conference.
- BB. Provided consult to insurance agent and to an attorney.
- BC. Provided memo to TP&Z concerning adverse affects on trees on Broad Street Green as result of parking cars.

ITEM 6 - Old Business.

- A. Establishing a deadline for tree planting plans was discussed. The Tree Warden explained that by having a plan and deadline would make it more efficient for him and the tree crew in purchasing and planting trees. Obviously there would be exceptions for memorial trees. After some discussion the Commission tabled action until the next meeting.

ITEM 7 - New Business

- A. Spring planting plans were discussed. Tree Warden reported that so far we are committed to finish planting plan at Emerson Williams parking lot. A request for trees on Hartford Ave. has been received. The sites need to be evaluated. Commissioner Alpert suggested looking at sites on Wolcott Hill and Ridge Road. Another site considered was Wolcott Green at Wolcott Hill and Prospect. This site had been considered previously but abandoned when it was discovered the old road had been covered over and not removed. The Tree Warden suggested that suitable tree and location be identified for memorial tree in honor of Bill George, former Tree Surgeon. All suggestions are on the table.
- B. The Connecticut Botanical Society has notified the Tree Warden that it has added two Wethersfield trees to its list of Notable Trees. A Pin Oak measuring 110 ft high with circumference of 15 ft 9 in. is the co-largest of its kind in the State. Another Pin Oak 112 ft high and 14 ft 5 in. in circumference is the 4th largest in Connecticut. Both trees are located on the Broad Street Green. Both were recorded by Ed Richardson on October 22, 2007.

Having no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

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

