

Minutes of Shade Tree Commission Meeting Wednesday, May 5, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Richard Prentice.

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

ITEM 1 - Public Comments

- A. Gail Fabian of 304 Hartford Avenue and Eleanor Fischer of 305 Hartford Avenue, expressed concerns over the general loss of trees in Town and specifically at the Stillman Building on Hartford Avenue and at the Webb Building on Willow Street. They also expressed concern that the Town is not planting enough trees.

The Tree Warden responded with an overview of the plans for the two sites in question. Chairman Prentice thanked the ladies for the concern and suggested that their comments might better be directed to Town Council since they determine where the money is allocated for Town projects.

ITEM 2 - Removals

- A. 681 Folly Brook Blvd. - Pine tree - 1 to remove, 4 to retain.
- B. 226 Broad Street (rear) - Poplar and Locust -3 to remove, 1 abstention. Authorization is contingent upon applicant making a \$600 contribution to the Town of Wethersfield Tree Fund.
- C. Highcrest School Grounds - Oak Tree - 4 to retain.
- D. 181 Dix Road - 3 to remove and 1 abstention.
- E. 481 Nott St. - No vote taken - need verification of ownership.
- F. 207 Griswold - 3 to remove, 1 abstention.
- G. Mill Woods Park - Tree Warden reported a pine tree has to be removed due to vandalism.

ITEM 3 - Minutes - [Minutes of April 7, 2004 meeting](#) were approved as presented.

ITEM 4 - Communications

- A. Commissioner Prentice has written to all garden clubs in Town requesting donations to the Town of Wethersfield Tree Fund. The Bud & Blossom Garden Club will donate \$25.00 and the Men's Garden club of Wethersfield has pledged \$150.

ITEM 5 - Tree Warden's Report

- A. Worked with Marie Massaro, Grants Administrator, in preparing ATB application for plantings at Wethersfield Police Headquarters.
- B. Contacted Bruce Spaman requesting proposal for consulting work authorized by Town Council.
- C. Accompanied inspector on inspection of sidewalks on Bunce Road. At same time inspected street trees.
- D. Inspected trees at proposed building site at 226 Broad Street. Reviewed plans with applicant and Building Inspector.
- E. Investigated beaver damage to trees at Mill Woods and Pine Acres.
- F. Followed up citizen's complaints on Cedarwood Drive, Nott Street and Brookside Circle.
- G. Assisted Tree Unit in picking up Arbor Day tree and planting it. Also assisted with trees for Charles Wright School and Warner Place
- H. Went to nursery to inspect trees selected for planting at Silas Deane Middle School.
- I. Attended Tree Warden's Workshop on selection, planting and care of street trees.

ITEM 6 - Old Business

- A. Reviewed Spring Planting Program. All street trees have been ordered. Some have been delivered and planted.
- B. Arbor Day Celebration at Standish Park went very well as did Charles Wright School Arbor Day Project. Wethersfield Village Improvement Association is to be thanked for again sponsoring Arbor Day and purchase of the trees. Marguerite Alpert is to be commended for the job she did in planning and coordinating the Charles Wright School Program.

ITEM 7 - New Business

None

Having no further business to conduct, the Commission meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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