



DOVER TREE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

7:00 PM

June 27th, 2023

Held Remotely Via Zoom

Members Participating: Val Lin, Shannon Crotty, Angela Lin, Janet Bowser

Opening: Chair Val Lin called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

I. Meeting Minutes

Val was unable to present meeting minutes, but will send them out for review with the July meeting materials.

II. The Conway School final summary and recommendation updates

The final version of Seeing The Trees and the Forest are now available to the public on the Town website.

III. Updates on 2023-2024 Initiatives

Based on previous meeting discussions, and Planning Board feedback, it was determined that the priorities for The Tree Preservation Committee would be 1) Assisting Kevin McCabe to update the Stormwater Management Bylaw (SMB) with tree protection provisions using the Brookline Erosion Control Bylaw as a guide for how to do this. 2) Complete and submit the Tree City USA application 3) Develop and implement an online tree resource for the community 4) support the development of a Natural Resources Protection Bylaw. Several members have

Val updated the group that she and Carol Lisbon had a very productive meeting with Kevin McCabe to review the tree recommendations that overlapped with the Highway Department and how they can work together on the Stormwater Management Bylaw (SMB). Val will continue to work with Kevin over the coming months as well as the BOH and land use development departments to complete the SMB.

Val also reported that the Planning Board would like to know if the Tree Preservation Committee has the capacity to lead the Natural Resource Protection Zoning (NRPZ)

bylaw development. Committee members felt that we already had a full plate of initiatives and we can support the NRPZ development, but at this time are unable to lead the initiative.

Angela Lin updated the committee about the Tree City USA initiative. She has reviewed the application and reached out to Dover leadership to obtain the necessary supporting documentation. She will work with the BOS to create an Arbor Day Declaration as part of the application process.

Shannon updated the committee about the Online Resource initiative. She has begun creating an outline of key topics that will be provided. This will be a “living” resource and new materials will be added as the needs of the community grow and change.

IV. Deadlines for Priorities in 2023

Per feedback from Kevin McCabe, the completion/deadline for the Stormwater Management Bylaw completion will be in several stages. He has completed the first deadline with hired consultants. Should an erosion control section be added, it would need to be completed in time for the May, 2024 Town Meeting.

Angela stated that the deadline she found for the Tree USA application appears to be Dec, 2023, however the committee will work to complete the deadline by Sep, 2023. Shannon stated that the committee can try to have the online tree resource live by fall 2023, but that the committee will add materials to the resource over time to build a robust community resource with relevant supporting documents and links to tree research and useful websites over the coming year or two.

The committee discussed additional grants that could be useful to Dover’s tree preservation efforts. Janet mentioned that Dover had jointly applied for a grant with Sherborn and a few other surrounding towns, but it wasn’t approved by the state. Gino in Sherborn is leading that effort and it is thought that he will apply again in the next grant round, however the date/timing is unknown.

Val mentioned that Laura had submitted a grant to the state on behalf of the Planning Board for assistance with completing a Natural Resource Protection Zoning bylaw.

The status of the Hale Reservation was discussed and wondering how the Tree Preservation Committee can support the Town in its effort to get out the vote. Val stated that she would reach out to the Town committee and report back to the committee at the next meeting.

Janet suggested that our committee meet with the new Town Administrator, Michael Blanchard, who will be starting on July 17th. Val will forward any meeting opportunities to the group.

Adjournment:

At 8:00 PM the meeting concluded.

Next Committee Meeting: July 18th 7:00 pm