

Minutes

TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING May 25, 2010

Attendance: Don Nelson, Chairman
Peter Viteretto
Christine Names
Dave Tracy

Absent: Rich Whitehead

Staff: Hal Alvord, Tree Warden
Paul Sotnik, Deputy Tree Warden
Chris Torre, Deputy Tree Warden
Dilene Byrd, Secretary

Norwalk Tree Alliance: Dick Aime (Absent)

Neighborhood Liaisons: Gay Mac Leod, West Norwalk Association
Mike Mushak, Golden Hill Association
Rob Frazier
Jim Dombrowski

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Nelson called the meeting to order at 6:05 P.M.

2. APPROVE MINUTES OF TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF APRIL 27, 2010

**** MS. NAMES MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

3. REPORT – INCIDENTS OF ILLEGAL CUTTING

Mr. Sotnik said that the resident at 25 Nursery Road reported that she had performed an illegal cutting. He said that she had removed six trees and that he is in the process of bringing her into compliance. Ms. Names asked if she will be fined. Mr. Sotnik said "yes."

4. TREE PLANTING PROGRAM

- a. East Norwalk- 4 old and 2 new plantings left for Spring 2010
Mr. Sotnik said that the trees are ready to be ordered.
- b. Wall Street
Mr. Sotnik that once the stumps are ground, there is some sidewalk repair work that will need to be done around several of the tree pits. He said once that is completed the trees will be planted.
- c. Highland Avenue
Mr. Sotnik said that 35 locations have been staked and the order will be placed.
- d. Elmwood Avenue
Mr. Sotnik said now that the locations have been staked, the trees will be ordered. Mr. Viteretto asked how many trees will be planted. Mr. Sotnik said two.
- e. Main Street DVB, planter locations, other planting sites
Mr. Alvord said that he has spoken to DVB and they have received permission from the owner at 167 Main Street to plant the two trees on his property. He said that there are also two other locations that he has looked at with CL&P, but he has not yet spoken to the property owner. These would be planted in the fall of 2010.
- f. Other CY 2010-MLK Blvd.
Mr. Alvord suggested that a planning team be formed at next month's meeting for the planting project on Martin Luther King Blvd. Mr. Frazier asked if the intersection at West Washington and Martin Luther King Blvd. will be included in the planting. Mr. Alvord said "no" because it is now an Adopt-A-Spot that Mr. Mushak has adopted.

5. INFORMATION COPIES

- a. Arbor Day May/June 2010.
Mr. Alvord distributed
- b. 2010 Tree Warden School Announcement.
Mr. Alvord distributed
- c. Connecticut Tree Laws
Mr. Alvord circulated and said it was provided by Chris Donnelly at the Tree Festival, and that if anyone needs to reference it, it will be available in the DPW library.

6. REPORT- GE CAPITAL TREE PLANTING AT DEVON'S PLACE

Mr. Tracy said that 10 trees were planted by volunteers and that a sign will be installed at the entrance to Devon's Place to commemorate the planting.

7. REPORT- ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION

Mr. Sotnik said it was very successful event at Silvermine Elementary School. Mr. Nelson said that an elementary school needs to be chosen for next year's Arbor Day celebration. Mr. Alvord said that he has a master list of the schools which have already been chosen and that he will e-mail that out to members. He said that the Committee should be prepared to choose a location for 2011 at the June meeting.

8. UPDATE- TREE FESTIVAL 2010

Mr. Tracy said that the Tree Festival was a huge success. Mr. Alvord said that 1,300 people had attended and that great feedback has been received from the attendees and the exhibitors. He said that Mr. Sotnik spent a lot of time putting the parking plan together and it worked out well. Ms. Names said that she thought that the Parks and Recreation tent could have been better and that they should have had more information available. Mr. Alvord said that he will meet with Mike Mocciae to discuss having a program and park information for next years Tree Festival. Mr. Torre suggested that the Department of Public Works tree crew equipment be displayed next year at the festival. Mr. Alvord said that he will be coordinating a lessons learned session. Ms. Names requested that the Committee members return the name tags and street signs so that they can be used again next year.

9. DISCUSSION – NEIGHBORHOOD ACTIVITIES

No discussion.

10. DISCUSSION- NTA ACTIVITIES

Mr. Tracy said that they have been working on prepping for the Tree Festival.

11. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Frazier said that when new trees are planted they are to be trimmed in the second year which does not always get done. He asked if it would be possible for the Tree Advisory Committee to authorize someone to trim the trees on behalf of the City. Mr. Alvord said "yes," but that he would prefer it be done by a tree liaison.

Ms. MacLeod said that there are four trees that are dead on Fox Run Road across from Richards Avenue that she believes are on school property. Mr. Sotnik said that he will submit a work order for the trees to be removed.

12. ADJOURNMENT

**** MS. NAMES MOVED TO ADJOURN**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting adjourned at 7: 15 P.M.

