

TOWN OF WESTON
TREE ADVISORY GROUP
MINUTES OF JANUARY 22, 2020
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Present: Chair Lori Hess, Nina Danforth, Marilyn Doyle, Ed Recka
Absent: Kristin Barbieri, Barbara Fullerton, Laura Perry
Guests: Leslie Glynn (Planning Board), Jackie Jackson (Parks and Cemetery)

1. Citizen Comments, Announcements, Approval of Minutes:

Lori described the holistic tree discussion to take place at the Planning Board meeting tonight. The Board will appoint a working group comprised of representatives from the Select Board, Planning Board, TAG, and the Department of Public Works. The working group will be divided into two sections addressing public and private issues. They will explore needs for trees and tree management, what should be done with information gathered, and will consider the view of the town as a whole. As well as presentations from the Town Planner and the DPW, Leslie will make a presentation to the Planning Board at the meeting tonight. TAG agrees to participate in and support the working group. Lori stated that she will represent TAG and also participate in the public group discussions and Barbara will participate in the private group discussions.

Nina stated that health and growth of public trees is important and the role of the tree warden is important. Her concerns should be presented to the working group. Various concerns were discussed. Concern Resolution will be addressed at the next TAG meeting.

2. Goals for 2020: Next Steps:

Lori will work with Kara to get a website up and running. Ed's list of recommended functions for a Town Arborist and the need for a Town arborist was discussed. Lori will show the list to the working group.

Ed presented a proposed format for the list of recommended trees. The comment section can be tailored to Weston, with trees recommended for street versus private spaces. It is anticipated that there will be 100 trees on the list.

Nina presented the first of her Remarkable Trees of Weston series: a beautiful ancient sycamore on Route 117. She noted that all of the new plantings for Case House were installed in December. Planting grass will be completed in the spring. Ed said conditions for their care should be in the contract. Nina suggested that we create a plan for monitoring growth of new plantings.

Kristin Barbieri and Ben Polimer met with Nina regarding a problem preventing removal of a dead red oak (on the Legacy Trail) with lights on it. Lights on this tree and other trees on the path should be removed.

Nina recommended a book: NEW ENGLAND NATIVES. Leslie will provide information on ground covers, lawn alternatives.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m. The next meeting will be February 12, 2020, 10 a.m.
Department of Public Works

Respectfully submitted, Marilyn Doyle

