

**RECEIVED  
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BELMONT, MA**

DATE: March 21, 2022  
TIME: 10:02 AM



**Minutes of  
The Shade Tree  
Committee  
14 February 2022**

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THE ZOOM MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 16:32 by Chair Lucia Gates, and attended by, in alphabetical order: Jay Marcotte [Director of DPW], Mike Santoro [Assistant Director of DPW] and DeNee Reiton Skipper. Guests in attendance: Emily Peterson.

There was no quorum at this meeting and agenda items were only discussed.

The minutes of 24 January 2022 were discussed.

JAY MARCOTTE'S REPORT: Jay's proposal, which was sent out via email earlier was greeted with approval. Lucia had shown the proposal to her colleagues in the Garden Club and they were enthusiastic about it. However, the Select Board will have to approve the proposal to change the tree donation process. The current process for tree donation means first obtaining approval and acceptance from the Select Board for the donation. Jay's proposal would streamline this process. Also, Jay and Mike S. will meet with Wagon Wheel next week about tree purchases.

BAY STATE ROAD: Three trees are slated for removal there and nearby residents were notified. The actual notification process is as yet of an indeterminate timeline. If the timeline is too long, a dangerous tree may collapse during the notification period. If it is too short, scheduling issues may be encountered and cause confusion among the neighbors. Police details may also be needed causing scheduling problems. The urgency of the tree takedown will also figure in the notification of neighbors. There are currently sixty trees slated to be removed.

TOWN CHRISTMAS TREE: The Lyons Club was contacted to propose a permanent tree in the town center. Jim Roth of the Club said that the Club has a 75 year history of trees donated by Nova Scotia in memory of the help they received from the United States during the fire of 1917. Emily suggested planting an evergreen Holiday Tree as a back up should Nova Scotia decide to discontinue this gift to preserve their trees. The location of this tree is not settled.

HIGH SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT: Bill Lovallo will attend our meeting in March with the plans. Lucia tried to attend the HS/MS meeting about the issue, but it was cancelled.

The meeting ended at 16:57. The next meeting is planned for 14 March 2022.

Minutes respectfully submitted by DeNee Reiton Skipper  
Minutes approved,

*Lucia Gates*