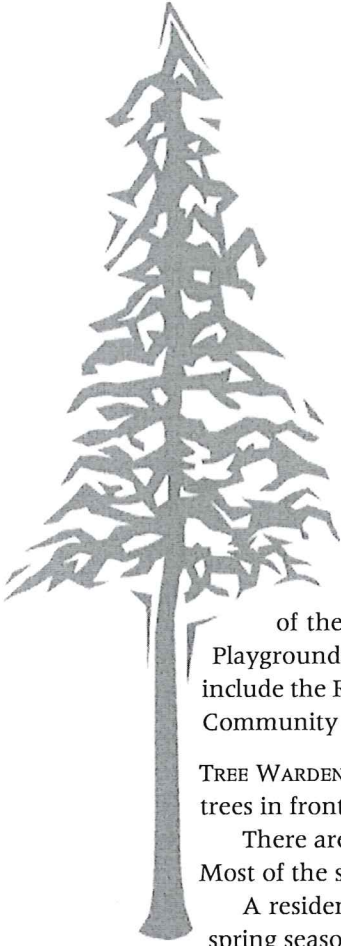


2019 APR 25 PM 2: 36

Minutes of
The Shade Tree
Committee
25 March 2019



The meeting was called to order at 16:35 by Chair Lucia Gates, and attended by, in alphabetical order: Rachel Berger, Mike Chesson, Jennifer Parker, DeNee Reiton Skipper and Tom Walsh.

The minutes of 11 February 2019 were approved.

RE-ORGANIZATION PLANS: There are a number of projects coming up this spring in Belmont for which Lucia proposed that we assign a committee member to liaise with the leaders of these various projects. Volunteers and projects to date are: Lucia/Library; Nancy/Grove Street Playground; Both Lucia and Nancy/Claypit Pond; Jennifer/Payson Park Bandstand. Unclaimed projects include the Ruth Ippen Tree Walk drainage problems and partial rebuilding to correct same; Police Station; Community Path; Alexander Linear Park Underpass and the High School Rebuilding.

TREE WARDEN'S REPORT: During the winter season many trees were damaged and have been removed. The trees in front of the Police Station were removed exposing the façade of the station.

There are 125 new trees have been ordered, expected to arrive in April and planted shortly thereafter. Most of the sites for the trees are already chosen, but a few remain to be sited.

A resident questioned the condition of the Oak trees at Wellington and they will be inspected as the spring season arrives.

ARBOR DAY: It is the last Friday of April. The War Memorial area on Common Street is a good location for replacement trees and a resident wishes to plant a dedicated Beech Tree there. This location will obviate the school children's participation because it is not conveniently located near a school and is in a high traffic area. Another problem is that each grade is five classes strong and the sheer numbers of children causes management difficulties.

Hartney-Greymont wishes to honor Belmont resident and former employee, Sinclair Weeks, recently retired, by planting a couple of trees in town. It could contribute to a nice arrangement in the War Memorial area to flank the aforementioned Beech Tree with additional trees.

TOWN SURVEY OF ASH TREES: This survey is almost completed and 450 Ash trees are now counted with an expected total of around 550. Tom feels that so far, about 100 trees are worth preserving, and treating by injection for the Emerald Ash Borer pest. This should be included in the budget for the Fiscal Year 2021; the budget for 2020 is set. Eleven large Ash trees at the Butler School were already injected as they are significant trees in town.

MCLEAN TREE WALK: Tentatively scheduled for Saturday, June 8 or Sunday June 9, depending which date is more agreeable because of both weather and members' schedules.

The meeting adjourned at 17:40. The next meeting is planned for 22 April 2019.

Minutes respectfully submitted by DeNee Reiton Skipper
Minutes approved,

Lucia Gates