

RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK  
BELLINGHAM, WA.  
FEB 14 3 27 PM '03

# Minutes of The Shade Tree Committee 16 January 2003

---



The meeting was called to order at 16:45 by Chairman Laura Matheson Simmons and attended by, in alphabetical order: Lucille Dressler, Nancy Forbes, Ruth Foster, Lucia Gates, and DeNee Reiton Skipper.

Minutes of October meeting were read and accepted.

CONCORD BOULEVARD: Joella Baird of the Garden Club would like to plant a row of Bradford Pears down the boulevard. Since she is moving away, we would like to place a plaque in her honor on the median strip.

ASPLUNDH CONTRACT: It is up for renewal this year. The tree service company contracts run for 3 years.

8 TOWNSEND AVE: The hearing for the pin oak tree was attended by Laura Matheson Simmons, Martha Moore, DeNee Reiton Skipper and run by Tom Walsh. The hearing was summarized for our committee. Permission to remove the healthy tree was denied, but the petitioner has the recourse to pursue it with the Board of Selectmen.

TOWN HALL CAMPUS: The meeting for the planting of the area was attended by Laura Matheson Simmons, Nancy Forbes, Martha Moore, DeNee Reiton Skipper and Sinclair Weeks. The meeting was summarized for our committee and plans were reviewed. Revised plans will be forthcoming. In order to have our chairman informed in a more timely manner about such meetings, it was proposed that a position of deputy tree warden be created which she will fill to ensure that she will be in the information loop. It will also ensure that either she or Tom will be able to cover all meetings about the campus and walk the site when the plantings are ready to go in. There was discussion as to why the plantings in front of the Town Hall entry will be eliminated. The Boy Scout Troop, with the assistance of Joella Baird, installed them. They are agreeable in appearance, and perhaps it is not a good thing to involve the younger citizens of the town in a project and then bulldoze the results a few years later.

Laura reported on the lighting effects planned for the area and the objections that were raised during that meeting. Again, revised plans will be forthcoming.

The plans for the guying and planting of trees and other plant materials were reviewed and Nancy voiced objections in specific areas. She will revise the drawings with the reasons for the objection and return fax it to Donham and Sweeney.

PLEASANT STREET REDEVELOPMENT: A meeting is to be held on 24 Jan 03, but no further information was available. DeNee queried the 11 Nov 02 *Historic District Commission Comments on Pleasant Street Reconstruction, Sheet No. 28a* which states that a Yellowwood tree is a poor choice for the triangular island at Concord and Pleasant Aves. Perhaps, but a Yellowwood tree is currently occupying that island. It is an historic tree of interest; a Champion tree from Kentucky stock and believed to be planted by the owner on the original Winslow Homer estate. ("This tree will require some attention and needs to be cabled, but it is quite capable of surviving the roadway redesign." [From 15 Nov 01 minutes].)

*Sheet 28b* regarding the "bump-out" in front of the Woman's Club also came into question. A tree in that bump-out location is not viewed as desirable because it will obscure the large, historic beech trees on the Homer estate. These magnificent beech trees appear in many of Homer's paintings and should remain prominent and visible. It was also questioned whether any additional tree planting in the bump-out would impede traffic and its visibility of the upcoming intersection.

Meeting was adjourned at 18:05.

The next meeting will be 13 February 2003.

—Minutes respectfully submitted  
by DeNee Reiton Skipper