

## Draft Minutes

### TOWN OF GUILFORD Tree Advisory Board Minutes – 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2019

A regular meeting of the Tree Advisory Board was held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2019 at 4:00p.m. in the Town Hall with Acting Chairman Kevin Magee presiding.

Present:                   John Cunningham (Member at Large)  
                              Susan Gillie (Leete's Island Garden Club)  
                              Shavaun Towers (Member at Large)

Also present:           Tree Warden Kevin Magee

Liaison to Tree       Dottie Colonese (Guilford Garden Club)  
Advisory Board       Vivian Thain (Guilford Garden Club)

Excused:                Shirley Girioni (Guilford Garden Club)

The meeting was called to order at 4:00p.m. The Board members introduced themselves to newly appointed member Susan Gillie.

**Approval of Minutes:** Tabled to the next meeting.

**2019 Tree Planting Locations & Tree Species:** Whitfield Street was felt to be the main location. Ms. Towers recommended starting at the railroad bridge and working north. She thought one question would be the Henry Whitfield Museum property although this technically was Old Whitfield Street. Two trees have come down and perhaps should be replaced. Mr. Magee said by the stores on Whitfield Street there was one empty area where a tree could be planted – maybe a cherry tree. Mr. Magee said there was more space than originally thought – 36” – 48”. Regarding the lower part of Whitfield Street Mr. Cunningham asked where the utility wires were. Mr. Magee replied that they started on the east side but later crossed over. At #128 Mr. Magee said a tree was removed so there was space for a new tree. The planting strip is 4ft. wide. Space is available at #148, 42” wide, so maybe a smaller species. Mr. Cunningham recommended planting adjacent to the driveway rather than beside the house. There is open space at #174 (40”-42”). At #200 Mr. Cunningham said he was unsure if a hole could be dug in this area. Mr. Magee suggested testing to see if it would be possible. He added that a tree had to be removed at #211. Mr. Cunningham said it would be nice to have a shade tree at #265 and Ms. Towers said she would like to have two trees. Mr. Magee mentioned that three elms at #373 had suffered from storms. He then asked for input on species. Mr. Cunningham recommended having one variety on one property. Mr. Magee suggested oak trees with maple trees where there were no sidewalks to be damaged by roots. He then asked how many trees could be planted. Ms. Colonese said Guilford Garden Club had approximately \$6,000 although some of this funding was for memorials. The Classes of 2017 and 2018 at Calvin Leete had raised approximately

\$1,000 (Jennifer Stenger). Ms. Colonese said Ms. Stenger would like publicity on this and wondered if a tree could be planted on the Green. Mr. Magee said the Green would be difficult and it was felt Calvin Leete School would be more appropriate. Ms. Colonese said Ms. Stenger would also like a plaque. Mr. Magee replied that plaques were not allowed on trees on the Green. It was suggested that memorial trees could be planted at Rollwood Park and Jacobs Beach. It was estimated that 9 trees could be planted in addition to 3 memorial trees. Ms. Stenger could pick the Calvin Leete tree under Mr. Magee's guidance. Mr. Cunningham recommended planting 2-3 varieties, mostly shade trees rather than ornamental, although an ornamental tree could be planted at Rollwood Park. Should a grant be received from the Guilford Foundation this would provide funding for fall planting.

**Future Tree Planting Locations:** Mr. Magee suggested planting more trees on Whitfield, Fair and State Streets.

**Tree Removals as Part of Town Projects:** **1) Letter to BOS re funds for replacement trees due to construction:** No update.

**Development of Guilford Tree Policy:** Tabled.

**Other Business:** **1) Susanne Andres, 17 Graves Avenue – Tree Replacement:** Mr. Magee said he had approved a request to remove two Hornbeam trees at this property. The property owner was paying to have the sidewalk and curbing replaced. Mr. Magee said he had requested that at least one tree be replaced. Mr. Cunningham felt one tree would be sufficient. Mr. Magee suggested locating this between the two existing trees and Mr. Cunningham agreed. He recommended planting a shadblow/serviceberry to match trees on the other side of the street – upright with a single stem.

**2) Refurbish Tree Grates on Whitfield Street:** The Board was waiting to hear the result of its grant application to the Guilford Foundation.

**Public Forum:** There were no members of the public present:

**Approval of Bills:** Ms. Towers made a motion to approve the following bill: Katharine Stewart, secretarial services. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. Cunningham made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:40p.m. Ms. Towers seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

The next meeting of the Tree Advisory Board will be held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2019 at 4:00p.m. in the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted: \_\_\_\_\_ Katharine Stewart, Recording Secretary