

Draft Minutes

TOWN OF GUILFORD
Tree Advisory Board
Minutes – 10th June, 2021

The Tree Advisory Board held a virtual regular meeting on Thursday 10th June, 2021 at 4:00p.m. with Chairman Shirley Girioni presiding.

In Attendance: John Cunningham (Member at Large)
 Shirley Girioni (Guilford Garden Club)
 Caroline Herrick (Leete’s Island Garden Club)
 Patricia Keegan (Guilford Conservation Commission)

Also in attendance: Tree Warden Kevin Magee

Excused: Shavaun Towers (Member at Large)

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

The meeting was called to order at 4:03p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Ms. Herrick made a motion to approve the Minutes of 15th April, 2021. Ms. Keegan seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Tree Plantings for 2021: Mr. Magee reported the following tree planting would take place on 6/11/21: 54 Broad Street – Sweet Gum, 47 Fair Street – Red Oak, 64 Fair Street – Okame Cherry (2), 76 Fair Street – Okame Cherry, 25 River Street – Pin Oak, 17 River Street – Pin Oak, 113 Water Street (River Street side of property) – Pin Oak, 7 State Street – Tree Lilac. Guilford Green: across from Town Hall – London Plane, across from 96 Broad Street – London Plane, across from St. George Church – Red Maple. Mrs. Girioni asked Ms. Colonese if she had informed the Guilford Foundation (TGF) about this tree planting project. Ms. Colonese replied yes, and asked for a list of the trees that TGF was paying for. The Tree Advisory Board had wished to plant a Tulip Tree across from St George Church but Mr. Magee said this was not available so a Red Maple was substituted. He added that he had had the trees delivered today to save time in tomorrow’s planting project.

Development of Guilford Tree Policy: Ms. Herrick said she had edited this document and returned it to Ms. Towers but had heard nothing further. Mr. Magee said he would block out some time so he could work on the document.

Other Business: 1) Refurbish Tree Grates on Whitfield Street: Mr. Magee stated that he had to write a report on this project for TGF which had provided a grant. The grant was used to refurbish the soil around the trees. It was also hoped to level the grates but this would probably have to be done in

conjunction with a Town sidewalk project and the grant funds would not cover the cost of this. Ms. Herrick mentioned that a friend had stumbled into an area where a grate was missing and had fractured her foot. She recommended replacing the grate and thought perhaps two were missing. Mr. Magee said he could research grate costs. Mr. Cunningham estimated \$1,000 - \$1,200. He added that a grate company could duplicate the existing grates and thought funding could be raised for this. He felt each tree should have a grate. Mrs. Girioni said the grate(s) should be replaced as soon as possible. Mr. Magee noted that TGF grant was for \$2,000 of which \$900 was spent.

Public Forum: No members of the public were in attendance.

Other Business: **1) 96 Fair Street:** Ms. Colonese stated that a tree in front of this property had a large branch growing up on to the roof and into the gutter and other branches were growing around the side which was not good for the building. She felt these needed to be taken down. Mrs. Girioni wondered if Eversource would do this work but Mr. Magee felt it was too far away from the street. It was suggested that the landscaping company which maintained this property might trim the tree. **2) Woodruff Property:** Ms. Colonese said there was a dead tree, a tree that was planted in the past which was now not viable. She said it was to the left of the foundation in the back of the property. Mr. Magee thought that in the past another tree was planted in this location which did not survive and he suggested that perhaps the tree should not be replaced. Mrs. Girioni wondered if the location was contaminated. **3) Guilford Community Center (32 Church Street):** Mr. Magee asked Mr. Cunningham if he had talked to the Parks and Recreation Director. Mr. Cunningham replied yes, and that he was going to recommend that the Bradford Pear trees be removed. At its meeting on 11/19/20 the Board had recommended planting 3 trees (medium scale) at the courtyard on the back side of the hedge so the trees were further away from the sidewalk, and a bigger scale tree for the island. Mr. Magee noted that the cost of this project would be paid for by donations and not the Town.

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

Mr. Cunningham made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:30p.m. Ms. Herrick seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

The next meeting of the Tree Advisory Board will be held on Thursday 16th September, 2021 at 4:00p.m. .

Respectfully submitted,

Katharine Stewart
Recording Secretary