TOWN OF SWAMPSCOTT

TREE COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 13, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:36 pm. Meeting adjourned at 8:49 pm.

Meeting location: Elihu Thomson Administration Building, 22 Monument Avenue, Swampscott, MA 01907, 1st floor conference room

Members Present		Town Officials
Verena Karsten, Chair	Ana Nenshati	Gino Cresta, Director of DPW and Tree
Jim Olivetti, Vice Chair	Brian Drummond	Warden (Ex-officio)
Richard Frenkel	Tara Gallagher	
Jennifer Honig	Robert Levy	

Item		Person Responsible
Ge	neral Items	
1.	Minute taker assignment	Brian
2.	Public comment (first 10 minutes of every meeting)	None received
3. Minutes of meeting on 09Mar2023 approved		
4.	Administrative topics for tree committee	None
5.	 Updates from the tree warden Tree removals (0 removals, 1 tree lost at 259 Humphrey St do to hit and run) Next tree hearing is planned for May \$8662.29 available from Town Meeting Article \$2449 available in Tree Gift Fund \$350 donated by the Conservancy in memory of Paul Levenson \$100 donated by Patrick Cassidy Maintenance plan for heritage trees (Cicoria/DCR grant). No Report 	Gino
Tue	 Spring planting (29 trees planned for planting, evaluating a new supplier (Bigelow), since tree supply is limited at NE Nursery). All remaining homeowner requested street trees, as of ~4/1/2023, are on the list for spring planting. 	Ana
Tree Planting and Conservation		
6.	 Swampscott Canopy Study (Town newsletter & website) The Selectboard presentation by Salem State students went well. 100 acres of tree canopy was lost and in six years (2010 thru 2016). The plan is to post study on the town website. 	Tara

Item	Person Responsible	
7. Municipal Reforestation Bill Letter	Jim / Jenn	
Letter sent to Senator Creighton. He will add his name to the legislation		
8. Protection of Trees in Setback	Verena/Jen/Katie	
 The committee discussed possible bylaw changes to protect trees in setback regions of house lots. Bylaws from Lexington and Concord were discussed. Action: Verena and Jen to look into possible Swampscott bylaw changes. 		
9. Railroad Station / Crosswalk Improvements	Tara/Verena/Gino	
 Grant for Railroad station crosswalk improvement does not include adding trees. Action: Tara to look into possibility to have funding for trees added to the Grant 		
10. Tree Give-Away at Earth Fest (29-April) from 10-1.	Brian/Richard/Robert	
 Table and chairs to be supplied. One hundred redbud trees and planting instructions provided by the Swampscott Conservancy and Suzanne Hale. Brian, Richard and Robert to volunteer. 		
11. Climate Action Plan	Suzanne	
 The Climate Action Committee needs input from the Tree Committee for recommended actions to improve climate resilience. Action: All to email suggestions to Verena for Suzanne 		
12. Tracker for Future Tree Planting Locations		
Topic moved to next meeting	Richard	
Tree Inventory		
13. Mapping by eagle scout / girl scouts	Brian	
 Gino met with Elliot Pulaski, offered some suggestions and approved. The project is to map, identify, and measure DBH of 174 trees and then update the database. The project starts in May and ends mid-July 		
14. Tracking of trees lost in inventory – Category to be added to Tree Warden Report	Brian	
Other Business		
15. Creating subcommittee for tree committee and forestry website Action: Jim volunteered to start the review. Others to provide input.	Jim/All	
16. Confirmation of next meeting date- Next Mtg Monday May 8th 6:30p	All	