

TOWN OF SWAMPSCOTT TREE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Tree Committee on Thursday February 16th, 2023 beginning at 6:30 pm

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

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

Item	Person Responsible
General Items	
1. Minute taker assignment	Tara
2. Public comment (first 10 minutes of every meeting) - none	Verena
3. Approval of minutes from 12-Jan - Approved <ul style="list-style-type: none">- add Suzanne Hale to list of attendees- Annual report drafted and approved	Verena
4. Administrative topics for tree committee <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tree Committee Responsibilities and Procedures & Vice Chair Appointment document was reviewed• Revised to say members reviewed annually; hope is that committee members would be chair for one year. Vice-chair would then become chair. Jim was elected Vice-Chair.• Parking lot items to be reviewed in March.• 2022 Annual Report - finalized• Ethics Training – reminder to do this	Verena
5. Updates from the tree warden <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tree planting<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Resident waiting list – 11 added to the list we already had.○ 21 new trees requested to be planted.○ Gino agreed to plant 32 trees this spring but no more.• Tree removals (09-Feb tree hearing)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 9 coming down and 3 were saved• Cicoria's 3-year maintenance plan for heritage trees (DCR grant)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Cicoria will be updating their plan based on our comments• Funding request for contract work – no word yet from Sean but Gino has added the increase to his budget	Gino
Tree Planting and Conservation	
6. Next Steps for Swampscott Canopy Study	Tara / All

Item	Person Responsible
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tara to contact Katie Phelan and Dianne Marchese to get a date for the Select Board meeting • At same time, Verena could mention our support for Gino's \$20,000 budget request • Spread the word about the meeting when we get a date and do public education about need for trees 	
7. Future Tree Planting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track future tree planting locations by our priority categories • Gino suggested having the fall tree planting be focused on tree equity • Speak for the Trees did some equity-related mapping; we can review • Jen will draft a template for us to track future request by category for us to review 	Jen
8. Tree Give-Away at Earth Fest (29-April) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plants have been ordered and will be delivered to Suzanne Hale's house 	Brian/Richard
9. Hawthorn Property Idea Exchange <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several committee people attended; there was a lot of interest in open space 	All
Tree Inventory	
10. Inventory summary for CARC – removed from agenda	Richard
11. Mapping by eagle scout / girl scouts – topic postponed	Brian
Other Business	
12. Letter in support of Municipal Reforestation Bill <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim verified with Dianne that we could write a letter of support for Sean's review (ask Open Space and Conservancy to co-sign) • Jim and Jen will draft a letter • We could ask Brendan Crighton to co-sponsor the Senate version 	Verena
13. Spring Planting (timing, tree order, biochar) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ana will work on species and Verena will work on ordering; will consider biochar if a spot can be found to purchase 	Verena
14. Confirmation of next meeting date <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday, March 9th 	All