

Longmeadow Tree Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 24, 2019 at 6 p.m.
Longmeadow Fire Dept. Public Meeting Room

The Tree Committee meeting was opened at 6:08pm. The following members were present: Chair/Tree Warden David Marinelli, Patrick Carnahan, Bari Jarvis and Mark Tolosky. Absent were Wayne Ottani and Steve Steiner. One member of the public attended.

Public comments and discussion: None

Tree Warden Report:

Tree Warden attended a 2-day conference regarding community trees and care/maintenance of trees.

Tree Committee Chair completed and submitted a report of the committee's activities for inclusion in the 2018 Annual Town Report.

Tree Warden has been in touch with the DPW engineering department and an engineering consulting company regarding updating and mapping the town's tree inventory.

Old Business:

2019 Arbor Day Planning-Tree Warden has been in touch with Center School administrators and likely 3 trees will be planted there in celebration of Arbor Day. Longmeadow Gardeners will again be donating trees to all town 4th graders.

2019 Long Meddowe Days Planning-Master Gardeners will be assisting. Trees will be provided free of charge at the information booth.

2019 tree planting-Amherst Nursey has been contacted and might be able to provide both nursery stock and labor for spring tree planting. Tree Warden prefers smaller trees so as to maximize number of trees planted.

Hazard trees continue to be removed when identified.

New Business:

Municipal Vulnerability Planning (MVP)-New initiative through The Commonwealth. Money is potentially available through state funds. Program was developed in response to concerns about climate change and how that will impact communities. Fire Chief is spear-heading the program for Longmeadow. Tree Warden plans to attend the first planning meeting, with Bari as backup.

Emerald Ash Borer treatment planning-Tree Warden has been identifying Ash trees in town and evaluating the health of each tree. This is being done so as to best determine which Ash trees can be treated. Tree Warden provided that treatment can cost less than removal, especially for those Ash trees that are specimen examples or provide great street tree value. Treatment is done via injection.

The purpose of the Tree Committee is to promote a healthy and sustainable community forest by planting and maintaining quality trees and providing education and advocacy to the public on the benefits of trees.

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Declining beech tree at Williams Street and Heather Road-Tree hearing was held for this tree. Town Arborist looked at tree and determined that tree had rot/decay. A written objection to removal has been filed, and at this time the Tree Warden is working with the consulting arborist to see if the tree can be preserved for a few years with pruning.

The minutes were reviewed and unanimously approved.

Set next meeting date: 2/28/2019 in the Fire Station Meeting room
The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.
Respectfully submitted: Patrick Carnahan, Recorder

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