



DOVER TREE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

6:30 PM

January 10th, 2023

Held Remotely Via Zoom

Members Participating: Val Lin, Jay Crocker, Shannon Crotty, Angela Lin, Boynton Glidden

Guests Participating: Brett Towle, Audrey Logan, Kaitlyn Campbell

Opening: Chair Val Lin called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

I. Introductions:

The Conway Team introduced themselves and provided a short bio.

II. Discussion about why this project was initiated

The Department of Public Works will be hiring a consultant to review the Stormwater Management bylaws in Dover and provide recommendations for updating them to the Massachusetts State Standards. We know that tree preservation is a crucial factor to protect groundwater quantity and quality.

The public has voiced concerns about lot clearing during development. There are outdated rules for trees preservation within the Dover bylaws. Most rules involve wetlands, subdivisions, and scenic roads.

The public also have voiced their recognition that trees support biodiversity/ecology, and preserving the character of the town. This came up when the subject of drought was discussed at both at public meetings and general community conversations as well as conservation efforts that the community has put forward through Town or Land Trust purchases in the community.

It was determined that Dover should provide educational resources to offer to the community with the idea that education will help residents to reconsider removing trees from their properties. In addition, a review of surrounding and "like" communities bylaws

should be reviewed to understand how they preserve trees in their communities and what obstacles they face with enforcement.

III. Data Needs

Discussion around what data points the Conway School would need and how to best request those. It was acknowledged that Dover doesn't have robust data, but Val would assist the Conway team with introductions to department heads and assisting with data requests.

Val also will provide Conway Team with various documents that she has and contact lists for surrounding communities. The Conway Team will utilize GIS mapping to gather information when possible. Jay will connect the Conway team to John Gilbert the former Dover Tree Warden.

The Tree Committee has initiated a stakeholders list as requested by the Conway Team and will provide that list with contact information within the next week.

IV. The Conway School Presentation

The contract with The Conway School includes two public meetings. It was determined that the first public forum should be held either Feb 4th or 5th. Val will determine what spaces are available for those dates and get back to the Conway Team to complete the logistics of the meeting.

Adjournment:

At 7:30 PM the meeting concluded.

Next Committee Meeting: January 24th at 6:30 pm