



DOVER TREE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

6:30 PM

February 15th, 2023

Held Remotely Via Zoom

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

Guests Participating: Janet Bowser (incoming member), Brett Towle, Audrey Logan, Kaitlyn Campbell

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

I. Introductions:

Janet Bowser was introduced as a new member who will be joining the committee following her swearing in with the Town Clerk.

II. Review of Community Forum from Feb 4th

Members discussed their takeaways from the Feb 4th public meeting. The Conway School presented their summary findings in a slide presentation. Overall, very positive feedback from the community and great community engagement. Two members of the public expressed interest in joining the Tree Preservation Committee. The top tree concerns the public voiced were the impact from clear cutting due to development, drought/climate change stress on trees, and disease/insect harm to trees (lantern fly), management of invasive plant species. There was a clear request from the public for online resources related to guidance on tree protection and tree management. Questions also came up about the need for guidance when trees can or should be removed as well as cleanup of fallen trees in wetlands.

It was suggested that a New Homeowner Guide be put together to provide guidance to new property owners about existing bylaws and tips for tree and property maintenance. Discussions were had about stormwater management bylaws in surrounding towns and new state requirements. Val will be added to the discussions with the Brookline Tree Warden.

III. Stakeholder List for Next Public Forum

It was discussed and determined that the most useful format of the next public forum would be a smaller focus group to allow The Conway School and tree committee to determine what type of bylaw or preservation program would be most feasible for implementation. Suggested stakeholders for this meeting would be members representing all land related boards/committees in Dover, directors of Public Works and Board of Health, Tree Warden, and the Town Inspector. The general public are invited to attend and there would be a questions section either at the beginning or the end of the meeting.

The date/time/location of the meeting are still being worked out, but it would likely be early March and we could try to reserve the Great Hall, Lindquist Commons, or Chickering Cafeteria

The committee expressed its desire to keep our community engaged and talked about ways to identify active involvement opportunities for the public. The committee will look into putting together a speaker series allowing local or regional tree and plant experts to give one hour talks at the library or via Zoom

IV. The Conway School Presentation

On February 24th Brett, Audrey, and Kaitlyn will be presenting the Dover Project Preliminary Summary of Findings to faculty from The Conway School. They invited and encouraged all committee members to attend and will forward the Zoom link when they receive it.

Adjournment:

At 7:30 PM the meeting concluded.

Next Committee Meeting: February 28th at 6:30 pm