



**TFW Agenda
November 15, 2017
Sasaki Associates**

Repeat of advice from Susan Labandibar of Green Cambridge:

Another best practice that I learned recently for advocacy groups who want to be more effective is that the size of your organization is not the determining factor as to how much influence you have. **According to research conducted by Tufts University, the three most effective tactics are:**

- **Research! Having the capacity to gather timely and relevant data**
- **A point person for government relations who cultivates productive relationships with government officials**
- **Lobbying frequently on specific, targeted asks**

Today's TFW agenda items

1. Approve October minutes.
2. Correction of error on the Sept 2016- Sept 2017 annual financial statement.
3. Approve September-October 2017 financial statement.
4. Past month's events and upcoming events.
5. Teen Tree Stewardship Project - form Advisory Board, review proposal.

Past month's events

1. October 30 - Watertown Square Community Meeting

Aaron Dushku proposed radical redesign of Delta, with coffee shop et al
TODO David Jay, Libby et al, meet with Aaron. Show him David J's proposal, and brainstorm options for the Delta and the closed end of Charles River Road (if this all happens)
Genie Johnston made excellent statement regarding importance of planting trees well
TODO Libby follow up with letter to Town Council

2. October 31 - TFW Big Tree Contest finished - 4 winners, 3 honorable mentions. See Jane Holden's press release.

3. Announcement of Chris Hayward's departure for Needham position as Conservation Director.

Review drafted TFW message to town councilors and managers.
Libby is hoping to get a last interview with Chris. He has promised to send Excel records on new tree plantings for the last three years, many other questions to ask. **TODO Libby** follow up on this.

4. November 7 - Town election. Susan Falkoff and Aaron Dushku stepping down. Our two new at-large councilors are Anthony Dattoli and Caroline Bays. Invite to a TFW meeting?

5. **November 8 - Planning Board presentation on 385-393 Pleasant Street.** Plans total removal of forested berm bordering the Waltham Street neighborhood. Developers advertised "vast improvement in stormwater runoff management". Neighbors expressed urgent concerns about the loss of environmental benefits of the forested berm, traffic flow issues, on-street parking issues. Libby repeated concerns expressed in the illustrated TFW statement submitted to the PB in July. Discussion to be continued at next PB meeting on **December 5** (confirm the date)

6. **November 9 - Urban Forestry Today webinar on new technique for rapid protocol for assessment of urban street tree planting sites.** Bryant Scharenbroch of University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point and colleagues have been developing and carefully gauging the effectiveness of this. urbanforestrytoday.org/videos.html.

7. **November 9 - Councilor Lisa Feltner sent a link to Dedham's very nice public shade tree database.** Libby invited Lisa to come to a TFW meeting. **TODO Libby** - follow up on this invite.

Upcoming Events

Saturday and Sunday, November 18 and 19 - Community Leaf Raking organized by David Meshoulam and WHS senior Jeremy.

Monday, November 20 - Mount Auburn Street community meeting.

TODO LIBBY - finish the Excel spreadsheet of tree stats collected by Libby and Genie, try to find some time to run an iTree analysis on it before the meeting.

Tuesday, November 21 - dueling meetings:

- a. **Community Meeting on 33 Mount Auburn mixed-use development.**
- b. **(Final?) Victory Field Committee meeting 7 pm, Lower Hearing Room**

Thursday, November 30 - Drought tolerance webinar. See today's email from Libby for details.