

Trees for Watertown Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 19, 2020
Online, via Zoom

Board members present: Sharon Bromberg-Lim, Genie Johnston, David Meshoulam, Libby Shaw, Michele Waldman

Absent: Dennis Duff, Michael Moran, Bob Lauricella

Members present: Jessica Grimsby, Donald MacDonald

No July meeting notes were presented.

TFW financial statement

Genie presented the financial statements for July and August 2020. Both were approved unanimously (July: Sharon moved, David seconded; August: Michele moved, David seconded).

CPA Proposal progress

Michele and Jessica presented on progress made on CPA project. They determined that the Town's purchase of Walker Pond would be the most feasible of all of the possible CPA ideas they had explored. They talked to Leo, and with Elodia, they brainstormed ideas on how to encourage Town purchase of Walker Pond. Michele and Jessica wanted to know if TFW supported this effort.

TFW board members declined to support this effort because the Walker Pond project had a much wider scope than TFW's central mission. We also mentioned that this campaign would require a much larger organization or umbrella to lead such a large campaign.

David had to leave about one hour into the meeting, so we lost our quorum. However, we came to this consensus: We encouraged Jessica and Michele to reach out to other Town environmental groups, to perhaps form a Friends of Walker Pond group to lead the campaign, which TFW would support but not lead.

Tree Request Drive

Jessica, Francesca and Sharon have completed the text for the door hanger. Sharon has written an article each for the Tab and Watertown News. Francesca, Jessica and Sharon to continue to work on the design.

Libby to reach out to David for password to update our online tree request form. Libby will also check with Marcia Ciro to see if she'll design a flyer.

Annual Meeting and Composition of Board

Bob Lauricella and Michael Moran are stepping down from the board. Libby has invited a Nominating Committee composed of TFW Life Members to invite current board members to serve another term and to invite prospective new board members (Jessica and Don). Per our by-laws there must be a 30-day period before voting on a new slate of officers and board members, therefore our annual meeting will occur in October, either the 1st or the 8th, TBD. This will be a Thursday, to encourage cross-over from other likeminded organizations' members whose monthly meetings conflict with T4W's.

New Tree Warden News

An offer has been made to a prospective Tree Warden. Hopefully Libby will hear on Friday or Monday whether the candidate has accepted the position.

Other

TFW is now a supporting organization on the campaign to save 120 mature public shade trees along Melnea Cass Boulevard in Roxbury.