

Trees for Watertown Board Meeting Minutes DRAFT
March 20, 2019
Sasaki Associates, 64 Pleasant Street

Board members present: Genie Johnson, David Meshoulam, Michael Moran, Libby Shaw
Absent: Dennis J. Duff, Bob Lauricella, Michele Waldman
Member present: Michelle Cokonougher

1. Review of January 23 minutes. No changes.

2. Tree Warden report/update (Libby):

- Dawgtree Pee guards for Filippello Dog Park: Chris is working with Bob Dirico on this. No decision yet.
- Stoneleigh Circle screech owls: apparently Genie saw the wrong tree; Chris said the hole had not been damaged. Will revisit.
- Arborculture Day of Service at Arsenal Park Thursday the 25th and Arbor Day celebration at Cuniff School on Friday the 26th. Chris is scaling back Arbor Day plans this year, still settling into his new position. Looking forward to doing more next year.
- The 2019 tree planting contract will include at least one gator bag for each tree -- on a support post, not directly on the tree trunk.
- Chris is looking into ordering 50 small bare-root trees for FALL neighborhood tree planting parties. David may be able to enlist his teens to help with the neighborhood contact and recruitment.
- Chris and DPW are working on protections for Edgecliff bump-out plantings, against cars driving over them.

3. Libby relayed MicheleC's conversation with Ed Baptista, Watertown Roads Supervisor, re road salt:

- Watertown uses ONLY NaCl, no brine, no gentler chloride chemistry.
- Jim Urban webinar discussed a case study in Toronto on trees in raised planters vs unprotected in-ground trees. A barrier at or planter elevation above the pavement can make the difference between life and death via protection from salt damage, from spray and especially from runoff.
- DavidM: On walk along the Charles River last summer with 2018 T4T group, Peter del Tredici pointed out dramatic difference in health between zelkovas at sidewalk level and zelkovas uphill from the pavement, though all planted at the same time. Cited pavement level salt exposure as the chief cause.

4. Saturday, March 23 Trees and Climate Change Symposium plans:

- Genie and Michael will help with TFW table (Libby will bring materials),
- Michael will construct a sign-up form with check-boxes for multiple projects: pruning corps, neighborhood tree planting, teens for trees, TFW mail/email list
- David will make another sign-up (I don't recall just what for?)
- Libby will bring TFW materials and TFW membership forms

5. Margo Woods and Sheila Falcey of Elders Climate Action plan to organize Spring neighborhood

plantings of several tree species seedlings provided via the Arbor Day Foundation. Could organize as a neighborhood party, MichellC said \$200 WCF funding available if sponsored by 2 neighbors.

6. Planning for Teens for Trees 2019:

- lengthy discussion of fund-raising strategies, including perhaps a back-yard gathering on Arbor Day?
- Also discussion of strategies for active teen engagement with the community to build leadership.
- We unanimously passed a motion to reimburse David for the T4T website hosting renewal fee \$108 ?
- We might schedule further work on the tree survey as part of Watertown Helps Out Day (first Sunday in May). About 900 trees left to survey.
- David will follow up on discussion and suggestions.

Respectfully submitted,
Genie Johnston