

Tree Committee
Ridgefield, Connecticut

Minutes, Meeting of March 17, 2010

Present: Tom Venus, Vicki Yolen, John Pinchbeck, Joe Eltz, Nancy Boersma

Absent: Will Molyneux, Priscilla Holmes, David Andry

The meeting was called to order by Tom Venus at 4:45 p.m.

Minutes of the February 24, 2010, meeting

Vicki moved that the minutes be approved, Joe seconded the motion. It was carried.

Treasurer's report

In David's absence, John reported that there is \$3171.11 in the Tree Committee account.

Notable Tree project

After some discussion on current circumstances and the pressing need for more copies of Ridgefield's Notable Trees, Joe moved that the committee change its decision regarding the republication of RNT: instead of adding eight new trees, we will add only four new trees. Vicki seconded, and the motion was carried.

After assessing the tree pictures we have, considering the prime season for each of our potential new notable trees, and deciding that we need new copies of RNT soon, the committee decided to republish the book by adding White Pine, Red Cedar, Tuliptree, and Black Walnut. John and Vicki will take new pictures from better angles, if needed, and we will then proceed to write copy and republish the book. All information is to be sent to Joe.

The group will hold in abeyance the other four trees on the original list: Shagbark Hickory, Sweet Gum, Red Bud, and American Holly. We may also consider Pin Oak and Camperdown Elm for inclusion in the future.

Town projects

John reported that he had an OK from Paul McNamara to plant a Sweet Gum this spring on the bank in front of Baskin-Robbins. Nancy reported she had just sent a note to Pete Goldstein requesting that the owner of Adam Broderick send a letter to John Pinchbeck and the Tree Committee reiterating his verbal approval of planting a Princeton Elm this spring on the bank in front of his business.

Tree Warden's report

John informed the group of a daylong conference which is being run by the Connecticut Forest and Park Association on April 12. He reviewed, and the committee discussed briefly, the tree damage from the weekend storm (March 13,14), and he showed us cross-sections of trees damaged by the Ambrosia Beetle. He also outlined his budget proposals and the current town economic situation.

Old business

Tom and John, both of whom are involved, shared information about the Conservation Commission's Natural Resources Inventory, which is required by the State of Connecticut.

New business

John informed the committee of the Richardson Park Tree Tour, planned for Saturday, May 15, rain or shine. It will be our somewhat belated Arbor Day event – at next month's meeting, John will give further details.

Adjournment

At 6:00, Nancy moved, and Joe seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. Agreed to unanimously.

Nancy Boersma, Scribe

March 24, 2010