

Minutes of the October 20th, 2010, Meeting

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

Absent: David Andry

The meeting was called to order at 4:41pm.

Minutes of the September 15th meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Balance of \$5,824.68 reported.

Priscilla's Tree Honorarium: Cornelian Cherry was chosen by Priscilla. The location for the tree will be at the south side of the fountain. Discussion of a single stem vs. a multi-stem and we made appropriate calls to Priscilla and Garden Center to determine. Tom will research and tree will be planted before winter.

Notable Tree Project: Sample booklets were passed around and the entire publication was reviewed with comments, corrections, and suggestions regarding content. The color of the booklet was approved.

Suggestions and recommendations were made to recheck the Red Oak Tree and Norway Maple in the booklet to see if they may be state contenders and/or champions.

A decision was reached to print 500 copies so that besides selling the booklets, some non profits, schools, and government agencies can receive a copy because the Tree Committee is concerned with "Education" as part of our mission to the community.

Tree Wardens Report: " Ridgefield's Patch", a community blog, will have a member visit for next meeting. The committee is excited to share the new notable tree publication.

Terry McManus, Master Gardener, will be giving a talk on Asian Long Horned Beetle and the Emerald Ash borer at the Discovery Center.

The European Hornbeams planted in lieu of the Fastigiata Oaks in front of the Ridgefield News are doing very well. The planting site was too small for the Oaks.

The White Sawyer insect is sometimes being confused with the Long Horned Beetle, John showed the members a specimen.

A prolific plant sample was brought by John and identified as a native Hog Peanut or Wild Kidney Bean which is native and not considered an invasive. Discussion of invasive plants, Vicki and John went to symposium at UCONN last week.

The Ballard Park inventory book had a few mistakes which John has corrected. John suggested the Fringe Tree in Ballard Park for the next Notable Publication.

Ballard Park is still being vandalized by kids, John passed around some pictures.

Old Business: The dead Hawthorne on Prospect Street was replaced by a Green Mountain Maple.

Upcoming Events: Terry McManus, Master Gardener, will be giving a talk at The Discovery Center on The Asian Long Horned Beetle and The Emerald Ash Borer.

Wilton is having a Tree Art Exhibition on November 5th, 6:00-7:30pm, would like our committee to attend.

The Annual Urban Tree Council will be having a meeting on November 3rd in Wallingford for all those who wish to attend.

There will be a Tree Warden's Seminar given by Chris Donnelly on October 28th at 9am at the Community Center.

New Business: There will be a bench placed in memory of Will's father in cemetery, but the tree planting will be at a different location. John suggested the tree be planted in front of Wachovia Bank (an ailing Norway Maple is there now). The new tree will be planted in the spring and the committee will help choose what to plant. The town will be extending the planting bed. A discussion on a rock vs. placque for memory identification.

The next meeting will be November 17, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10pm.

Vicki Yolen, Scribe.

=