

Tree Committee
Ridgefield, CT

Minutes of the November 18, 2009, meeting

Present: Nancy Boersma, Joe Eltz, Tom Venue, Vicki Yolen, David Andry, & John Pinchbeck

Absent: Will Molyneaux, Priscilla Holmes

The meeting was called to order at 4:34 pm.

Minutes of the October 21, 2009 meeting were approved as circulated.

Treasurer's Report: Balance in the Tree Committee account is \$ 3693.64 (Less \$500. withdrawn for the two trees planted with boyscout gift), Total - \$3193.64.

Notable Tree Project: Tom Venus took pictures for the first tree featured in November, Sweet Gum. Nancy Boersma also brought pictures. We are looking for better White Pines that are unencumbered by other trees. Joe Eltz discusses timing and plans for the upcoming book and town participation. John will take a picture of Holly for next month. We will get a better Pine picture.

A gift certificate from Chamber of Commerce for the resident who finds the best tree.

John will look to apply for a grant to cover the cost of reprinting the Notable Book.

Discussion of whether to rush the book or remain bookless and take time publishing. Voted on latter.

Town Projects: Paul Roche, Bob Schneider, and John went up to Young's In Woodbury to pick out trees for the Ann Richardson Park with the 25,000.00 approved grant. John got a very good discount and purchased the following trees; River Beech, Fernleaf Beech, American Beech, Parrotia (multi-stem), Swamp White Oak, Red Oak, Pin Oak, Black Gum Tupelo, Katsura, Sugar Maple, & an Acer Rubrum.

12-16 Dead Hemlocks, 3 dead Ash, a weedy Mulberry, 2 dead Slippery Elms, & 18 Black Locusts were removed. A Norway Maple and American Elm were pruned. Plans to plant some Dogwoods as well.

Plaque for Ann Richardson – John would like it to go at the park entrance after all the debris from the jobs are cleaned up. Garden Club will be contacted for recommendations. John will write a letter to Garden Club and ask them where the Ann Richardson Tree should go (in park or in town area).

Nancy talked to representative of Adam Broderick, "Pete Goldstein" about planting a tree for the spot outside the salon by the street but on his property. AB will send a letter authorizing their approval for the tree to be planted. Nancy will send a letter on behalf of the Tree Committee that we will be planting a 'PRINCETON ELM'. Pete Goldstein was happy with this tree choice.

John will write a letter to Paul MacNamara, owner of the Baskin Robbins Property asking for permission to approve a tree to be planted in front of the shopping center to improve the property.

Tree Warden Report: John submitted a letter for a Capital Budget for 2010-2011 asking for funds in addition to the capital funds for planting trees.

New Business: Priscilla will come up with a plan for Todd Forrest, David Andry will call him.

Vicki discussed the upcoming Tree Poster Contest proposal. Awaiting approval from superintendent office.

Discussion about Tree Seminar in Wallingford attended by Nancy, Tom, Vicki, & John.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:53 pm.

Vicki Yolen, scribe.

