CHELMSFORD TREE COMMITTEE
MINUTES for April 9, 2019

Location: Town Hall Room 206
50 Billerica Road
Chelmsford, MA 01824

Members Present: James Martin (Chair), Ginny Marshall, Andy Silinsh

Liaison Selectman: Ken Lefebvre

Not Present: Richard Friesner, Brian Zuzelo, Kate Messer (Conservation Agent/Planner), Gary Persichetti (Tree Warden), Ken Lefebre

Quorum Present;
Meeting called to order by the Chair James Martin at 7:12 PM

COMMUNITY INPUT  None

Motion to accept March 12, 2019 TREE Committee Minutes:
Motion Ginny Marshall

2nd Andrew Silinsh
Minutes Accepted as presented
Passed Unanimously

OLD BUSINESS

CENTER COMMON PLAN UPDATE

1. Communications from Tree Warden/Town Manager update: none

2. Andy Silinsh

   Presented color photos of the Town Common, complete with designs for trees and trees needing to be replaced.

Recalled from January Minutes: Town Common reflects the whole town because it is the center. Common needs more trees.

3. Jim Martin

   Reiteration from last month’s Minutes: American Beech does not do well on compacted soil, type present on Common e.g. the Library trees

   Trees with color would dress the Common. Different trees with blossoms in spring or color in the Fall
Definite need for much research needed on species of trees for the Common because time, effort, and money will be a strong factor.

1. 2019 ARBOR DAY PLAN UPDATE

Hosted by COSS
Planning some kind of ceremony for “Legacy Beech” on Arbor Day – either at Sunny Meadows or Garrison House.

2. LEGACY BEECH TREES
Sunny Meadows and Garrison House.
Trees are ready for planting, and the trees look very healthy. (Overwintered at Jim Martin’s home)

3. TREE INVENTORY UPDATE

Jim Martin

Continued discussion from last month’s meeting followed: Should the TREE Commission vary from its usual role of doing inventories of trees only on public property?

Motion: To establish a policy authorizing the Tree Committee to inventory trees on any town non-profit property that operates for the benefit of the town and its residents
Motion tabled until next month’s meeting

Charge a fee --- not charge a fee?
Offered suggestion: Instead of charging a fee for inventory, a requested donation for trees to be planted in town

TREE Committee

4. DOG PARK

Jim Martin:
Dog Park Caretakers are still interested in the TREE Committee’s input;
Jim took three samples of soil and sent it to Mass Dept of Conservation and Recreation.
Result: The entire area is seriously compacted. This compaction is a problem that must be solved
Previously, after numerous attempts to probe the compacted soil the attempts failed.

6. Volunteer Day at the SENIOR CENTER  Jim Martin and Brian Suezelo
March 23rd 9 -- 3:00 PM
Very successful: we recruited 6 people to help with the Inventory
Emerald Ash Borer was discussed. Event proved very good for advertising TREE Committee. Next year, it should be included as part of yearly plan.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. 2019 Work Plan
   Begin working on a new annual work plan for 2019 -- 2020

B. 2019: Election on June 2019: Tabled

   May Meeting: May 14, 2019

   Motion to Adjourn: Andy Silinish
   2nd Motion Ginny Marshall

   8:13 PM adjourned