

Minutes of Tree & Forest Committee Meeting Tuesday July 7, 2015 3:30PM Town Library

1. Call to order at 3:35pm by Jim Neureuther. Attended by Nicholas DeCandia and Kacy Westwood. Jim was acting as recording secretary due to Anne Pasko absence.
2. June 7 Minutes approved as submitted by Anne. Signed copy left for Town Clerk.
3. Treasurer's Report (Jim)
 - a. General fund \$550 (as 7/1/2015 for FY16)
 - b. Revolving fund \$4282.08 (Reflects total after \$1095 Invoice to be paid to Elhannon Nursery for 6 Trees plus delivery. Avg \$182 per tree. Invoice was submitted for payment on 7/7/15)
4. 250th Commemorative Tree Plantings (13 \$250 commitments to purchase trees have been received)
 - a. Status update of plantings
 - i. 6 trees delivered Monday 6/29/15. 5 trees (Tupelo, Catalpa, Dawn Redwood, Tulip Tree, Yellowwood) planted Tue 6/30 by Brian Wallace of Berkshire Native & Jim. 1 tree (gingko) planted Wed 7/1. Hand dug holes, hand screened topsoil from Laston Park used to backfill with soil amended by compost from Holiday Farm. All holes had heavy clay content that was removed. Jim made short stakes and placed 4 at perimeters of all tree rings for new and existing trees to keep mowers away.
 - ii. 5 trees scheduled for delivery (probably 7/14 or later). Linden, Honey Locust, Sugar Maple, Qty 2 Ivory Silk Tree lilacs. Jim to arrange planting with Brian.
 - iii. 2 trees planned for Fall. Deep pink flowering crab
 - iv. Commemorative Tree Finances to date. 6 trees \$1095. Planting ~ \$350. Compost \$40. Total for 6 trees \$1485 (avg \$248 w/o plaques). This is within expectations.
 - b. Commemorative Plaques. Cast aluminum 4" x 6" cost ~\$60 each. These are for Outdoor. Weatherproof. Look nice. Jim will pursue purchasing from the online companies to see if discounts can be obtained for multiple plaques even though each one is unique.
 - c. Gathering event for donors. After next 5 trees planted Tree Committee plans to host small reception at Jim's house along with walk at Laston. Goal is to purchase plaques first. Maybe have reception toward end of Week of Aug 17th? Or anytime week of Aug 24?
5. Fundraising Activity : King Elmer Magnet sales (100 to start, 29 left)
 - a. 42 gifted to Arbor Day students, teachers, aides, Tree members. 6/13 Paula at PO sold 10. Paula also sold 8 to family. 6/27 Jim at PO sold 16. Jim also sold 5 others.
 - b. \$195 collected to date (vs \$220 cost to buy). 29 left = \$145 to sell. Net gain can be \$120 plus our Arbor Day gifts to kids were covered by this. Ref: 2014 50:50 raffle net gain was \$180.
 - c. No one is available to Sell at PO on 7/11. Should also try to sell some at recycling on one Sat.
6. Other Old/New Business
 - a. Update Volunteer time & Expense items (190 hrs YTD), \$1095 Elhannon Invoice submitted 7/7. \$21.13 wood for stakes (Jim), \$12.49 portable file box (Jim) not submit these for payment yet.
 - b. Tree Maintenance. We need to weed at school Arboretum. Any compost left from tree planting will be used for these trees.
 - c. Open Meeting compliance training status. Nicholas has not done it yet. Jim will send him a link to do the online training.
7. Next Meeting TBD: Later in Aug? (Jim out Aug 3 – 18 & all Sept), else Mon Oct 5.