

## **Meeting:**

### **Montague Tree Advisory Committee**

Place: Turners Falls Senior Center

Address: 62 5th St, Turners Falls, MA, 01376

Date: 10/30/2017                      Time: 6:30 - 8:00

## **Minutes**

**Committee Attendees:** Michael Marcotrigiano, David Detmold, David Harmon, Roberta Potter, Leslie Brown, Walker Korby, Zhaohong Wen, Julie Kumble

**Community present:** Sean Mahoney, Tom Sullivan

6:30: Chair opens meeting

6:35 Minutes- Reading and Approval for 9/12/17 and 6/26/17

6:37 Discussion of Applicants for open committee seat. Committee will recommend the Selectboard appointment of Tom Sullivan to the Tree Committee.

6:45 Update/discussion - Town tree by-laws: Draft of bylaws to be shared with Mollie Frielicher, Director of Urban and Community Forestry, DCR, for advice. Updated draft of bylaws passed out. Next steps will be to make any revisions desired after Mollie's review, then discuss them with the Tree Warden, and then the Town Planner.

6:55 Update/discussion-WoodBank- The woodbank exploratory group has discussed using the transfer station as a potential site with the head of the town D.P.W. Tree Warden Mark Stevens is onboard with trees the town needs to dispose of going to a woodbank. Roberta Potter can qualify candidates at the Senior Center (as she does currently for the fuel assistance program). Discussion of over site by Tree Committee. Walker Korby reports the Montague Fire Department is also supportive.

Pros- Stronger Grant proposals for both Woodbank and Tree Committee, shared resources. Cons- Open meeting law restrictions hindering the woodbank decision making ability. David Detmold and Sean Mahoney will follow-up open meeting questions with Town Planner.

7:25 Update/discussion - Liberty Tree Grant Committee. Attempts to contact the Liberty Tree Program have not been successful. The committee has decided not to pursue the Liberty Tree grant at this time.

7:27 Update/discussion - DCR Urban and Community Forestry Grant application David Detmold has nearly completed the the application for the grant, will be filing the grant on 11/1/17 (Wednesday).

7:50 Discussion of utility line work/tree trimming/communications with town hall and tree warden - Better communication needed between Town manager and Eversource.

7:56 Open Meeting Law - Answers to questions ask to Town Manager regarding email and open meeting laws. (no email discussion or collaboration within the committee, fine for non committee members to discuss issues with individual committee members via email.

8:00 Discussion on providing childcare for meetings- Determined not to be an issue at this time.

8:00 Discussion regarding scheduling meetings-Committee will work to set a recurring date for meetings.

8:05 Items not anticipated within 48 hours of meeting.-

Question raised regarding the approval of tree removal at F.L. Roberts- David Detmold will look further into the matter.