

Montague Tree Advisory Committee

Minutes for Meeting 1/15/19 6:30 PM, GM Senior Center

Present: David Detmold, Roberta Potter, Michael Marcotrigiano, Tom Sullivan, Andy Vega, Sean Mahoney, Walker Korby, Jesse Eisenheim

- **Chair opens Meeting**
- **Minutes** approved 12/11/18
- **Handouts:** Agenda, Minutes 12/11/18, draft ordinance 1/3/19
- **Communications secretary & chair:** Andy Vega will become clerk; David Detmold will remain as chair
- **Tree Belt Mapping**
 - Jesse Eisenheim displayed tree data base for Patch, Montague City, part of downtown Turners Falls, and part of Montague Center
 - Agreed that members will work with Jesse to map remaining areas of town. Andy will help map Lake Pleasant. Roberta will help map Turners Falls hill neighborhood. Sean will work on Montague City. Members will contact Jesse by e-mail to arrange surveys
- **Tree Ordinance Review of Ordinance Draft**
 - Discussion of Section VII planting new town trees on private property: moved that homeowner will pay \$75 minimum (more depending upon species) for the tree & planting. Species and location will be approved by the Tree Warden. Homeowner will assume ownership of the tree immediately. Michael will rewrite section VII and send to members to review and discuss at net meeting (read only)
 - Discussion of section XI Fines: section A delete maximum fine and change \$20 per inch to \$25 per inch diameter at soil line. Andy will research other towns' fine schedule and will send out to members to discuss at next meeting (read only). We will consider adding homeowner community service as an option to waiver or fee reduction
 - ANSI standards throughout: Sean will insert where appropriate
 - Discussion of tree tapping prohibition. Fine will be added with option for Tree Warden permission
- **Wood Bank**
 - Agreed that Walker and Sean may schedule wood bank work sessions without committee action
- **Next Meeting:** David will set & notify members
- **Announcements:** Tom reported on the Land Care Symposium with Western Mass Pollinators. Many DPW s and conservation boards attended and discussed pollinator corridor design, pollinator habitat, and action plans regarding funding, getting tree committees and town planning boards involved. Tom is looking into what other towns are doing and will report back to committee.