

**Town Of Amherst**  
**Amherst Public Shade Tree Committee**  
**Agenda 10/14/14**

Location : Town Hall, First Floor Meeting Room

Members present: Nonny Burack, Bob Erwin, Nancy Higgins, Michael Hutton-Woodland, Melissa Perot

Town of Amherst: Alan Snow

Agenda:

Approval of last meeting's (9/9/14) minutes – minutes amended and approved.

Chair report:

- S. Amherst High School - - planting in Spring 2015. Henry has been in touch with the teacher who will work with the groundsperson who will be involved. Plans for papaws and persimmons. Probably 10-12 fruit trees. Planting during the week to engage the students.

Possible Arbor Day tree planting.

- Patrick Kamins – manages properties in town - moving ahead with trees on Meadow Street. Henry has submitted a list of trees he could plant. 1110 N. Pleasant Street was planted.

- Amherst Woods construction issue – A road reconstruction project was slated for a lot of tree removal for staging. A compromise was reached that shrunk staging area to save some trees.

- Henry in communication with Lilly Lombard in Northampton about Shade Tree Commissions; They are putting one in place.

Tree warden report

- Site visit on golf course along West Pomeroy. Tree Warden wants to flat top the trees (cut at ground level); other trees are needing removal. Tree committee generally agreed with WMECO that the trees needed removal.
- Public Shade Tree hearing on October 22 7 PM– scenic road Pine Street – 2 Norway pines slated for removal to widen the road, and for a new drainage line. Tree Warden has been involved in working to preserve other trees. These trees are only the first stage of tree removal. Michael presents motion to preserve the two trees; Nonny seconds. 6 in favor; one opposed. Motion passes.
- Judy Johnson on Board of Townhouse apartments – wanting planting of 4 clumps of trees instead of original proposal.

- Committee helping with site visits – training by Alan on how to approach citizens (Nonny, Susan, Henry, Melissa, Michael all want to do training). Need to have a system for tree requests that come in.

Treasurer's report – Bob – After plaques; \$8700 remaining approximately.

Alan has information has every tree hearing list for last 3 years. All were scenic road hearings. These trees which have been removed would have had reimbursement from the tree owner. Susan is following up the tree hearing list. Also on the ruling letter from Planning Board. Breakdown is that no one is following through to insure payment. Susan is following up.

First Saturday plantings 2015 – Bob - Bob will find 5 sites for committee.

ANTS – Nancy - Planting October 26 – 9 – 1 on Harris Street. – At least 8 trees going in. Nancy has invited Town Manager, and Assistant Town Manager. Note also to Scott Merzbach at Gazette. Nancy will send copy of invitation to Michael to distribute to the entire APSTC list. There will be a potluck lunch following.

Request list follow up – Nonny – Henry has some requests that have come in.

Plaques – Nonny – Need permission from Design Review Board to put in place. Alan has the plaques and will put them in place.

Poster contest – Melissa and Nonny and Michael will take on Crocker Farm. Mass DCR urban forest website. Fits in with Mass. curriculum.

Other items - Meeting with golf course owner to plant trees. Henry and Michael will go.

- Tree Steward training for DCR forest October 24-25. Have room.
- Cemetery trees – some are on town property, some are not. Committee wishes to preserve all of them. Nonny will draft letter to Select Board, Planning Dept. and Design Review Board. Henry will seek meeting with developer.

Meeting adjourned