

Community Forest Commission Meeting Minutes for 2 / 18 / 2021

Topic: Community Forestry Commission Feb 2021 Monthly Meeting

Time: Feb 18, 2021 05:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Attendees: Shirley McCarthy, Patrick Sweeney, Dan FitzGerald, Gary Zielinski

Absent: Doug Welch

Guest: Wayne Cooke, Christy Cantu

5:37 meeting called to order

1. Approve minutes of 1 / 27 / 2021
 - a. Shirley 1st, Patrick 2nd
2. Spring Planting
 - a. Tree Order Status
 - i. Gary went to Selectman's meeting for bid waiver, 3 quotes:
 1. Van Wilgen's cheapest
 2. Can store trees at Van Wilgen's (cost saving), pick up day before planting
 3. Order placed to Van Wilgen's
 - ii. Will plant before Arbor Day & will have Arbor Day celebration at High School
 - iii. Properties: Richland's (likely able to satisfy this spring); several places impacted by storms: Windmill Hill, Owenego
 - iv. other areas: Branford Hills, Flat Rock Road, Thimble Island Road, street corners, town-owned properties
 1. Gary open to more suggestions: input suggestions using Tree Request form (list makes its way to Pam)
 - b. Foot Park Plan
 - c. Additional Sites
 - i. See Tree Order Status above
3. Tree Planting Fund
 - a. Budget
 - i. Greater need than covered by current funding
 - b. Options for long term funding
 - i. What about soliciting for donations?
 1. Some interest from public in making donations
 2. Website tree request form has field for pledging a donation
 - ii. Applying for grants
 - iii. Dan will approach Jim Finch for guidance about how to set up a fund for tree plantings

4. Urban Forestry Management Plan
 - a. Options for Branford to Implement
 - i. Patrick will distribute and summarize CT Forest Action Plan
 - ii. Shirley will distribute and summarize CT G3C plan

5. New Business
 - a. None

Motion to Adjourn

Shirley 1st, Patrick 2nd