

Community Forest Commission Meeting Minutes 01/19/17

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Present: Shirley McCarthy, Louise LaMontagne, Nancy Mancini, Joann Minicozzi

Absent: Chris Woerner, Diana Ross

1. Minutes from 12/13/16 were approved. Motion by N.Mancini, seconded by J.Minicozzi.
2. Spring Planting: Trees have been ordered. Many of the 30 trees allocated for spring planting will go to replace trees taken down by Eversource this year. Discussed obtaining a list of trees from D.Ross to be pruned/removed by Eversource so members of this commission can inspect the trees before any action is taken on them, and possibly open a dialogue with the tree contractors hired by Eversource re: judicious pruning.
3. Volunteers: discussed having tree "stewards" from different districts to get involved with our commission: attend CFC meetings, advise the commission on where new tree plantings may be needed, and to serve as a liaison to enlist neighbors in the watering and care of newly planted trees.
4. Monarch Corridors: S.McCarthy identified 4 possible sites for the placement of monarch corridors: Autumn Ridge/Veterans Park; Ecology Park; Montowese Access; and the Kazinsky property (currently part of the Branford Land Trust); Some of these sites are maintained by the Town but for a few we need to find willing groups to maintain these corridors once planted. L. LaMontagne is meeting with a Garden Club member next week. A fifth site, Branford Hills, is a good site for planting of pollinator trees.
5. Green Summit: N.Mancini contacted Peter Raymond with the Branford Land Trust to see if his group would consider hosting the next Green Summit.
6. Tree Management Document: S.McCarthy edited an existing document from the Town of Norwalk to use as a template for the Town of Branford; copies were distributed to this commission so the members can review/edit further within the next 2 weeks so a version can go to D.Ross at end of month.
7. New Business: - Ordinance: S.McCarthy will check into the status of our draft ordinance.
8. New Business: - Arbor Day: Discussed the location of planting a tree as part of our annual Arbor Day Celebration; It was agreed that the front of the High School would be a good site again this year; the commission also will explore potential candidates for this year's eco-friendly award.
9. The meeting was adjourned: motion by L.LaMontagne, seconded by J. Minicozzi