

Helena Bailey Spencer/ Val Gallivan Tree Committee
June 9, 2022
Town Hall Conference Room

Present : Sue Mayne, Judy Hanmer, Joyce Zien, Todd Mervosh, Kacy Colston, Connie Murray, Anita Wardell, Ginny Bromage

Absent: Kevin Sullivan, Michele Holcomb, Mike Turgeon

Sue Mayne, chair, called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Connie motioned and Judy seconded to approve the minutes of the 5-5-22 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Kacy handed out the treasurer's report and noted that the Tree Committee has \$8432.50 to spend on trees for 2022. Kacy and Connie will get together to include the Trees for Suffield balance in future reports. Judy motioned and Connie seconded to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion passed unanimously.

Prior to the meeting Sue had sent an email with the link to the Trees for Suffield website (created by the Town's webmaster) and all in attendance agreed the new site looks fabulous and is a welcome addition to our "Trees for Suffield" initiative.

Sue gave a report on our booth at May Market. Trees for Suffield received a \$1000 donation from the Childs' as well as approximately \$300 in other donations. Checks have been forwarded to the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, cash is being held pending creation of a separate account within the Town.

Sue reported that three trees had been planted by Eversource on the south end of the middle green and that one is struggling. Eversource has agreed to replace it in the fall. This tree also has a problem with grass embedded in the roots. Sue will check with Chris Matejek about authorization for Todd to spray for it.

Sue submitted an article for the July/August edition of The Suffield Observer asking for watering volunteers for the new trees. We've also had people sign up on a volunteer list at May Market. Hopefully we'll find some people to adopt the trees for the summer. Kacy said she might be able to help water.

Upcoming events:

Mike Feli from Bartlett Tree will present a tree pruning workshop on Saturday, 6-11, 10 a.m. starting at the Hatheway House.

June 17-19: Suffield Summer Fair. Tree Committee to have presence via a poster with a listing of upcoming events (as well as a QR code for donations). Sue will get items to Kacy for the Town booth.

Farmers' Market: Judy Hanmer reported she will need a tent (will confirm the Tree Committee's space) and that Girl Scout volunteers will help during August. She will contact Kevin Sullivan regarding donations.

Suffield on the Green (SOG): Everyone thought we should have our own booth. Sue will look into obtaining booth space adjacent to either Garden Club, Land Conservancy or Hilltop. Tree Committee members will be asked to work a shift.

Tree ID Walk: Saturday, Oct. 1, 10-12 (rain date Sunday, Oct. 2). Walk in Sunrise Park with John Kehoe who will teach us how to identify trees. An additional walk in winter may be planned in 2023.

Todd reported that he met with Michael Feli from Bartlett to evaluate the Elm in front of Spencer on Main (264 So Main). Mike will get us an estimate for pruning. The Tree Committee will vote on approving the funds at its October meeting.

Giving Levels for donations were discussed and approved for the Trees for Suffield Fund as follows:

Give \$25 or more

SEEDLING LEVEL

Will help water new trees.

Give \$50 or more

SAPLING LEVEL

Will provide mulch to protect new trees.

Give \$100 or more

DOGWOOD LEVEL

Will help provide structural pruning for young trees.

Give \$250 or more

MAPLE LEVEL

Will purchase an ornamental tree.

Give \$500 or more

CHESTNUT LEVEL

Will purchase a shade tree.

Give \$1,000 or more

CHARTER OAK TRIBUTE LEVEL

Honor someone with a living tribute by endowing a tree.

A thank-you letter was sent to Trees for Bloomfield and they responded that Jen Rodriguez, Town Planner Bloomfield and Suffield resident, and Mark Sellew, owner of Prides Corner are interested to work with us. Sue will reach out to each of them.

Previous discussion of trees for the new multi-use trail on Mountain Road was revisited. It was decided not to move forward with this due to use of adjacent property and necessity of planting only on the north side of the trail.

At 4:08 p.m. Sue called for a motion to adjourn. Judy motioned and Anita seconded. Passed unanimously.

A special meeting will be scheduled for Thursday, September 15, 2022, 3 p.m., Town Hall. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 12, 2022, 3 p.m., Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Ginny Bromage, Secretary