

Helena Bailey Spencer/ Val Gallivan Tree Committee
Special Meeting
December 8, 2022
Town Hall Conference Room

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

Absent: Kevin Sullivan, Michele Holcomb, Connie Murray, Colin Moll

Sue Maye, chair, called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

Judy moved to approve the secretary's report and Joyce seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Kacy distributed the Treasurer's report and reported that both funds have money available to be spent. Kacy went on to explain how proceeds from May Market, Farmers Market, Arbor Day, SOG and the photo workshop are captured in Suffield's Municipal accounting system.

Sue reviewed the Hartford Foundation Trees for Suffield fund accounting distributed by Connie.

Joyce reported that she will send a follow-up email to all photo contest participants (80-90) advising of framing possibilities. There are 24 winners but all submissions will be displayed at Kent Memorial Library during the month of January.

Sue reported that Eversource replaced the tree they previously planted with a replacement 2 times larger than the original planting.

Sue announced the following 2023 events: Winter Tree Walk, Sunday, February 26, 2 p.m. Sheldon Street preserve across from Suffield High School in conjunction with the Suffield Land Conservancy. Creative Writing Workshops: 4 sessions to be held for adults at Kent Memorial Library in March 2023 and separate sessions for students in grades 3, 4, & 5 supervised by the staff at McAlister. It was suggested the students' work could be published in the Suffield Observer or read at Arbor Day.

Sue reported that she received estimates from Bartlett Tree Service and Bill's Landscaping for pruning trees (20 years or younger) planted on Main Street (excluding the Dogwoods). Bill's Landscaping was chosen and Anita motioned and Joyce seconded to allocate up to \$1000 for pruning. Motion passed unanimously.

Sue reported that she submitted a grant application for \$2000 to Suffield Greater Together. The grant would be used to purchase 15 trees (not part of the 10-year plan) to be planted by homeowners who agreed to care for them. The selection process is to be worked out.

Sue reported M&T Bank has agreed to a 1-year donation of \$2000 and that the Committee would need to apply annually. The following Tree Committee members will reach out to other banks: Judy-Webster Bank, Sue-Peoples Bank and Kacy-Windsor Federal.

Given the high profile of "Giving Tuesday", Sue suggested that we participate in 2023. Kacy will research Constant Contact pricing to more efficiently manage the mailing lists.

Sue reported that the planting site for Arbor Day 2023 will be the area between Café Barista and Webster Bank. A date has yet to be determined for the planting of trees in front of M&T Bank (their employees will be

participating). It was suggested that all trees that are anticipated to be planted in 2023 be ordered at the beginning of the year and that the nursery will care for them until the planting date.

Ginny is to revise the homeowner's letter and submit to Sue and the co-authors (Judy and Anita) for review.

The Committee agreed to commit to the following: May Market (May 20, 2023), Farmers Market (1 each Saturday in June and July) and Suffield on the Green (SOG) (September 9 & 10, 2023). Judy motioned and Kacy seconded to allocate \$65 for SOG booth rental. Motion passed unanimously.

Sue asked if all present are willing to continue to serve on the Tree Committee for 2023 and all answered affirmatively.

Sue reported that she successfully completed the Tree Warden training. The Board of Selectman agreed to appoint Sue as the Town's Tree Warden upon successful completion of the course and the details are currently being worked out.

The Committee agreed on the following 2023 meeting dates: January 19, March 16, May 18, September 21 and November 16. Ginny is to report these dates to the Town Clerk's office.

Anita motioned and Todd seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Ginny Bromage, Secretary