

May 6th Maynard Tree Committee Meeting Notes:

Attended: Lee Caras, Kate Wheeler, Neil Pederson, Jodi Beebe, Jan Rosenberg, Leslie Bryant, Tim Houlihan, Orian Greene

Chair: Lee Caras,

Notetaker: Neil Pederson

The Agenda

Nailing down the time/date of tree planting at Fowler:

- Lee had written a letter to Board of Selectman (BOS), CC'ing other people, including town administrator
- Letter made it clear the tree was a gift and they only had to accept the gift
- Our topic was not brought up
- Next BOS is May 12th
- At end of the meeting, new items were brought up; some items brought up
- Lee emailed David Gavin today; he's in favor, he asked if we had contacted the school and all
 - o Justin said we should contact acting superintendent of schools, Mary Jane Rickson
 - o Justin also said we need approval from the schools
- Haven't heard if Justin heard from DigSafe
- Kate's thought:
 - o We send out invitation to 'Save the Date' to advertise, but might have to delay.
- Neil concerned about upsetting powers that be about going forward without permissions for our first event
- Why was the 15th chosen?
 - o Choose the 15th to avoid the hot weather
 - "hot weather ain't coming!"
- Update people on whether we contacted the superintendent of schools & school committee
 - o Tim's wife forwarded the email to the school committee and Mary Jane Rickson & asked another committee member for input
 - o Only feedback was, generally, "this is great!"
 - o **Action:** We need approval from School Committee & Mary Jane
- Tim suggests we delay a week:
 - o Other things to consider:
 - DigSafe

- Whether the 22nd works for Steve; **Action:** Tim is checking in with Steve to see if this works
 - The start of Memorial Day weekend
- General consensus is that May 22nd is a good new date
 - People working for the town are done at noon on Friday
 - **Action:** Lee will get in touch with Justin to see if 10 or 10:30 am works for the city
 - **Action:** Lee will email to try to ensure our letter gets in the BOS packet

Fundraising:

- Have \$225 in donations
 - 'good seed fund!'
- What to use this for?
 - More trees to plant!
 - Jonathan's stonework?
 - Jonathan needs to follow up with Justin about using DPW work
- Stone:
 - Set up design subcommittee?
 - Many not a plaque, but something really special that Jonathan could do.
 - Tree is special, commemorative, a learning tree, but really good to also to reach out and ask about wonderful ideas and reach out to Justin about what materials are available
 - Determining order of placement?
 - Tree first, but the stone and tree should be a dialogue
 - Could put up text first and see the reaction for the plaque work
 - Subcommittee?
 - Lee?, Tim?
 - **Action:** Tim wants to reach out to Tim to see what Jonathan is thinking
 - 150th celebration goes for another year, so we have time

Tree List 'finalization' for distribution on our media, bearing in mind this is a digital and evolving list.

- Could be valuable, colleague in Athens, OH wants to use it for the tree committee
- When it goes online, Neil has an idea to do 3-5 minute clips for all/certain species to talk about the qualities, benefits, and overall ecology for each species to make our pages more dynamic

- **Action:** Would love feedback from other eyes

Kudos to Jodi for including info on the Maynard Tree Committee in the Community Gardeners newsletter.

Virtual Hikes

- 27 species on the Assabet River Trail off of Colbert Ave, a high number for such a short trail [only 1 mi]
- Could have a podcast or something that people could download for a \$1
 - o People could take a hike somewhere and Neil could narrate along a trail....
 - o Maybe next year
- Next planned virtual hike: Summer Hill
 - o Likely do it in June for the lead up to the Fourth of July with the idea of giving people something to do in the lead up
 - o Will likely do 4-5 hikes

Who to reach out to correct the planting date:

- **Action:** reach out to
 - o Justin
 - o Dan Costello
 - o Ellen Duggan
 - o Steve's availability is key

Next Meeting

Wednesday, May 13, 2020 at 7 pm

- Prep for planting on the 22nd
- Neil will provide a zoom link
- We should have approvals for planting the tree
- Hope to have Steve's schedule & Jonathan gets back to Tim