

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Hannah Cosman Room.

Members Present: Helene Henry (chair), Dan Adams (Tree Warden), Anne Brinton, Robert Clements, Michael Hutcheson, Martin Webster.

Guests: Veronica Norman, Brian Daigle, Joe Parent, Bob Everingham (all from Forest Pest First Responders); Arlene Distler.

1. The minutes of the September 11, 2012 meeting were approved by unanimous vote.
2. **Town Tree Warden report:** Dan Adams was contacted by the town Department of Public Works to take down about a dozen trees near the town water storage on the edge of the SIT campus. The trees are overhanging a storage tank and are interfering with radio telemetry. In response to questions, Dan said that the trees are on town land and are not in sightscape of any abutters. The trees are not of any commercial value, and Dan assumes that the cost will be paid by the Department of Public Works.

The Committee recommended that Dan take down the trees, as per the DPW's request.

Dan also reported that he has five American Chestnut trees that need to be placed in pots and wintered over. Martin volunteered to pot them and to put them in his garden until spring.

3. Hemlock Woolly Adelgid: Dan updated the Committee on the status of the state's response to HWA infestation. Dan made available an e-mail from Caitlin Cusack detailing the following:

- A. Certified applicators for category 3A: Ornamental and Shade Tree pest control. The Excel sheet, sortable by country, will be updated as more applicators pass the requirements.
- B. Update on who to contact. At present, the Master Gardener Helpline is the only statewide 800 number. Dan added that the website needed to have a banner/button added to lead to HWA information.
- C. Disposal of infested items. The Brattleboro Solid Waste District does not want to be involved in collection or disposal. There was a great deal of discussion, including the guests from Forest Pest First Responders, about possible means of disposal.
- D. Antioch Graduate School project regarding the HWA infestation. Dan supplied the current "Collaborative Service Initiative (CSI) Project Description," which can be revised to include the Committee's recommendations. This is intended to be a collaborative project, and so Antioch is seeking input for the Committee. The Committee agreed that working with the Antioch class on the scope and responsibilities of the project was important. This was made an agenda item for the November meeting.

4. **Arlene Distler** presented her request to plant a hydrangea in front of Drop-In Center in memory of Melissa Bussino. She said she hoped to raise \$100-150 to purchase the bush, and wanted BTAC to plant it. Discussion emphasized the need to protect the any planting in that location from snow plowing and vehicles parking. Martin suggested that the new owners of Abbiati Monuments might be willing to donate a slab of stone to create a protective curb. Arlene will keep the Committee apprised of her progress.

5. **Future Projects:** Robert said he had spoken to Paul Ethier, town Parks Supervisor. Paul said he would like trees planted in 14 locations, including West River Park and Living Memorial Park. No further details are available at this time.

Martin reported that the trees planted by the Committee on Main Street need work, both pruning and protection. This needs to be put on the schedule for late winter/early spring. Projects for 2013 was made an agenda item for the November meeting.

The next meeting of the Committee will be Tuesday, 11/13/2012 at 7:00 p.m. in Hannah Cosman Room.

Agenda:

1. Approval of meeting minutes from 10/9/2012
- *2. Tree Warden's report
3. Antioch Graduate School proposal
4. Projects for 2013 → - *Trimming*

*Lognot - Robert * will do Main*

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pliny

Michael Hutcheson



① Crowell - Rot group.

Design meeting 25th -

Mike MacIntyre Arborist

Map changing

Both arborist

opinion - not official report