

Tree Task Force Minutes  
April 6, 2023  
6:00  
Town Hall Conference Room

**Present: Marc Miller, Tyler Kolle, Susan Cherbuliez**

**Absent: Kristen Dorsey, Eric Horne**

**Updates:**

-Eric- Information from Dan Pilch; Peter Joseph (Town Manger) and Jessica (Finance Director), regarding the current Tree Planting and Maintenance budget; presentation to Town Council on 4/4. for next mtg.

-Marc /Susan - Town GIS Maps, MDOT map or diagram of Rte. One South...  
See below of mtg. with Earl Gibson.

-Kristen - June FSAB Lecture June 5 at 6:30 - speakers: Jeff Tarling, former Arborist City of Portland and Andrew K. Tufts Manager of Bringing Nature Home Maine Audubon 20 Gilsland Farm Road, Falmouth, ME 04105 207.751.0028 [maineaudubon.org](http://maineaudubon.org) Kristen is having a phone conversation with Andrew on Friday 4/7 to discuss the format / topics/

**New Discussions:**

-Meeting with Earl Gibson: April 3 by Tyler, Eric & Susan: We presented two aerials, one showing the location & species of trees for School St. next to St. Jude's church & the other locations & species of trees for the Park & Ride lot opposite Maine Beer on Route 1, & the Freeport Hotel, just south of that lot. We raised questions about utilities at the Route 1 sites, because we had seen an existing catch basin, sewers, and fire hydrants. Earl said he would get us GIS maps for us to show to ME DOT if we could plant there.

Earl got back to us via email saying that we could not plant in these sites because of these utilities, but we could plant at the "bump-outs" at the Park & Ride lot. He also said that he thinks that the site next to the church is not in the Town ROW, but would check. We said we would ask the Church if they would allow us to plant there, & perhaps they would participate in some way. We got back to Earl via email to ask if we could plant shrubs where the utilities are at the Park & Ride lot, and at the Hotel. We also want to ask exactly where the utilities are at the Hotel, as he said they are in the ditches and there is 25' grassed area that is not part of the ditches. We will ask him.

Earl said he thinks he has about \$4,000 that could be used to plant, but work will have to be done by outside contractors who will get the trees we specify, plant them, & guarantee them, including watering. He does not have the manpower to do the work now, but after June he will be able to do some planting when he (DPW) will be taking on the maintenance of town property.

-Brown Tail Moth and Emerald Ash Borer Monitoring: Earl said at the mtg. that the Town is not doing any spraying about BTM or EAB, nor monitoring. Kristen is attending an Ash Tree Inventory webinar on May 3, through UMaine/ APCAW.

Here is a recent communication from Freeport resident to Kristen regarding Black Ash : "Even though I'm not on the tree committee I'm definitely a "friend of the tree committee". And I'm involved in several groups that collaborate efforts with Wabanaki concerns. I'd be very

interested on where we land with this. If [Black Ash] trees have to come down it would be a real shame not to give them a second life. Leigh Kirchner"

-Susan's Resilient Species List / Planting Site selections: covered in the mtg. with Earl for specific sites.

-Plan Town Council Presentation: to be done at next mtg. or via email

-Memorial Park as a potential project for us: not addressed

-Tree Inventory - manually for now? / Intern or volunteer? We suggested that the new Sustainability coordinator could be approached to see if this work could fall under her work, as DPW cannot handle it. Kristen thinks that the coordinator will be fully engaged with the Climate Action Plan for the next year; so for now, manually since we are not planting that much yet.

#### **Next Steps:**

- Creating a "Tree-planting Resources for Land Owners and Property Developers" page on FSAB website - Susan's Species List/ parking lot recommendations / benefits of canopy / Project Canopy Report
- obtain lecturer's' bio's and photos
- Compile preliminary "Parking Lot / Tree Removal & Replacement Standards" (for advising Planning Board)
- -Begin drafting a Management Plan (Include specific quantities/species/ locations/planting schedule)

#### **Next Meeting:**

May 4. (since both Marc and Tyler will not be available for this mtg. we suggest setting a new date after May 16 if possible. This postponement would necessitate working on some of the above items before that later date.)