

Tree Task Force Minutes

February 2, 2023

Town Hall Conference Room, 6:00

Members Present: Kristen Dorsey, Marc Miller, Tyler Kolle, Susan Cherbuliez,

Guests Present: Caroline Pelletier, Town Planner

Business:

-Caroline Pelletier, Town Planner to address group questions:

1. Status of Comprehensive Plan Review: RFP will be sent out soon, then led by Planning Board- Administrative code good place to go to determine what charge belongs to each Board.
2. Town Visioning: will be presenting charters = "high level project management" documents (Feb.7 TC Meeting). Find out later where these will live on town web site. Each charter will develop phase plan. Look at charters to see where TTF could get involved, ex., Park Beautification Charter. Should get together with Complete Streets to watch these. Standards are vague regarding trees other than architectural
3. Overlay District (under prevue of Planning Board) has some design standards that are building/architecturally based, some are plant-specific.; likely to be updated and changed, RFP's going out as well as Design Review(has one standard for site features, rest is architectural). TTF should watch agendas during this process to see where to get involved.
4. Mechanisms for evaluating the cumulative impact of new projects/alignment with sustainability measures for codes & ordinances>esp. related to existing conditions site plans, removal of trees and other vegetation, maintenance of existing trees & vegetation: Some is market-driven; DEP Stormwater requirements (Planning Board) - there are 2 urban-impaired watersheds that Adam Bliss is looking at with Caroline.
5. How to promote objectives of our Tree Program: Section 527 of Zoning Ordinance: performance standards for commercial district... Lower Main Street, just south of Bean facility to Desert Road is Commercial District where TTF might focus interest. During Climate Action Planning process; a Sustainability Coordinator will be hired soon so ensure s/he is aware of TTF work. www.freeportclimateactionplan.org - sign up for emails.

Informational Exchange:

- FSAB May Lecture , Tree Canopy/Native Planting: Jeff Tarling may be a good suggestion for guest.
- February 15th Project Review Board meeting regarding housing project next to town hall
- Posting the Project Canopy Report/ getting in touch with those who helped survey/ invite to follow our work. FCT new Executive Director is leaning into more education around private beneficial land management. Get email list from Kym, next meeting

Tree Inventory System, Marc- Kym Ballard ready for training session with town personnel. Marc will connect with Peter to designate that person; in the future, perhaps an intern or volunteer.

-Planting Sites, Susan, and Tyler :Susan will get base map from Earl to begin planning Route One South for the state; determine whether he meant 15 inches or feet from pavement for state.

Tree Program Status- Eric spoke with Dan Pilch briefly, will sit down with both TC chairs.

-FSAB Update- Shared information about meetings regarding Hedgehog Mountain Plan / TC approval; we should begin thinking about how to celebrate Arbor Week in May.

-Susan is meeting with Rebecca Rundquist from Yarmouth to share what each town is doing around tree canopy.

Next Steps:

-Jeff Tarling is retiring; more availability to come to one of our meetings: Susan will call

-Continue working with Earl and Key Bank property owner on downtown-sited tree planting plan/design /schedule.

-Continue investigation of Route One South potential and collaboration with Yarmouth , DOT

Next Meeting: March 23, 6:00

Submitted by: Kristen Dorsey