

ESSEX TREE COMMITTEE
Meeting April 15, 2013

In Attendance August Pampel, Kenneth Bombaci, Susan Malan, John Molloy, Judy Saunders

Approval of Minutes The minutes from the previous meeting on March 11, 2013 were distributed to the attending Committee members. After discussion, the minutes were approved with no changes.

Discussion

Augie stated that the "Asian Longhorn Beetle" has not appeared in Connecticut but it is a wingless insect and appears to be moving slowly. Of more concern is "Emerald Ash Borer" which has been discovered in an area of Prospect. This is a flying insect and all the Ash trees in Connecticut are endangered. The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection is studying the situation.

Old Business

The redesign of the website for the town of Essex is complete and appears to be cleaner.

The State has not inspected the trees planted under the America The Beautiful (ATB) fall grant from 2012. As the inspection has not been performed, Essex has not been reimbursed for expenses incurred in the planting.

The Essex Tree Committee currently has a positive balance of nine hundred thirteen dollars (\$913) in the town funded budget from 2012 and anticipates funding in the amount of three thousand dollars (\$3000) from the 2013 town budget.

Susan Malan has assumed her duties as Deputy Tree Warden.

Arbor Day celebrations this year will be held on Friday April 26th and Saturday April 27th, and will feature events conducted by several town-based organizations.

Fri. 9:30 The Essex Land Trust will finance the planting of a "Star Magnolia" on the grounds of the Essex Elementary School. Augie will make a presentation on the importance of trees in the environment. The Land Trust has purchased 100 saplings which will be given away to the children to plant at locations of their own choice.

ELT	Sat 9:00	A "Pepperidge Tree" will be planted at Crosslots
Essex Park&Rec	Sat 9:30	Parks and Recreation will plant a "White Oak" on Teal Lane in Essex Village.
EGC	Sat 10:30	EGC and ETC Committee will plant a "Valley Forge Elm" at 41 Main Essex Essex
Essex Rotary	Sat 11:30	Rotary will plant a "White Oak" on Teal Lane in Essex Village

The Essex Community Fund has made a five hundred dollar (\$500) donation to the Tree Committee to fund tree planting. Augie will contact Jackie Doane at a later date when a tree is planted using this donation.

New Business

Kenny Bombaci and Augie will explore the possibility of buying tree from a wholesale nursery on Long Island. Fred Weber will continue to do the planting. The "Princeton Elms" previously planted have displayed "V" shaped crotches while "Valley Forge Elms" tend to display "U" shaped crotches. Augie considers the "U" crotches will provide a better tree canopy and the Elm trees planted this year will be "Valley Forge Elms"

All members of the Tree Committee were urged by Augie to look for possible sites for future plantings.

Judy Saunders has recently joined the Tree Committee and will handle publicity.

There is the possibility that the State will initiate a Spring "America The Beautiful" tree planting program. This will be pursued by Augie with the Intention of submitting a grant application for the Spring program in addition to the Fall program.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30