

West Tisbury Tree Advisory Committee
Committee Meeting
July 20, 2023
5:30 – 6:15pm

Meeting Minutes – approved August 16, 2023

In attendance: Jeremiah Brown, Emily Ellingson, Dave Fielder, Angela Luckey, Oliver Osnoss
Not in attendance: Timothy Boland, JT Hunt

1. Approved Meeting Minutes from June 7, 2023
 - a. Minutes were approved unanimously
2. Bids from Landscaping/Tree Companies
 - a. No bids have come in for the tree planting
 - i. This project is a 'Prevailing Wage' project; tree plantings and removals are considered construction projects
 - ii. Are tree plantings considered capital improvement construction?
 - iii. It may be difficult to get companies to bid on this project
 1. The committee decided it may be helpful to bring this problem to the Selectboard. Angela will email to get us on the docket for a Wednesday Selectboard meeting.
 2. We may need to adjust tree planting plans based on response from contractors.
 - b. Timeline
 - i. Planting plans are on hold until we can find a contractor
3. Property Owner Letter
 - a. Oliver has drafted a letter to a property owner on Music Street to inform them about planned elm tree plantings and suggest native shrubs as replacements for *Eleagnus umbellata*. The letter was approved, with one minor change concerning the next tree committee meeting date, and will be put on Town letterhead and sent before the next meeting.
4. Island Tree Update
 - a. Jeremiah and the Arboretum continue to receive many calls about Beach Leaf Disease. There have not been any new developments since last meeting.
 - b. Southern Pine Beetle has been documented on island; this will affect pitch pines, other pines.
5. Next Meeting Time, Date, Focus
 - a. The next meeting is planned for **Wednesday, August 16th @ 5:30pm** at the Polly Hill Arboretum in the Education and Botany Lab
 - b. Next meeting will involve looking into options for getting trees planted