

West Tisbury Tree Advisory Committee  
Committee Meeting  
6/7/2023  
Noon-1:00pm

Meeting Minutes – Approved July 20, 2023; 5:35pm

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

1. Approved Meeting Minutes from May 3, 2023
  - a. Minutes were approved unanimously
2. Tree Plantings
  - a. Tree locations
    - i. Tim talked with the Conservation Commission and they verbally approved the tree plantings along Brandy Brow. Tim, Emily, and Oliver met in May to get exact locations of trees on Brandy Brow. The path along Brand Brow will not be moved.
    - ii. Trees and Town Hall Park still need to be staked – some unhealthy trees (a cherry, a sycamore maple) may need to be removed before planting. Committee should meet at least two weeks ahead of any scheduled tree planting to stake locations of all trees.
    - iii. Committee members noticed some invasive *Elaeagnus umbellata* (autumn olive) were transplanted in an area along Music Street that is slated for American elm plantings. Oliver will find out the property owner and draft a letter.
  - b. Timeline
    - i. Committee would like to see trees planted in fall of 2023 or spring of 2024
    - ii. Bid packages due July 15
    - iii. The tree survey of the historic district should continue, using Survey123. If there is any confusion on a street tree being on town property, note on Survey123.
  - c. Bids
    - i. Emily will update the bid invitation with a July 15 due date and send to the group
    - ii. Jeremiah will send emails of landscapers to JT
    - iii. JT will send the bid invitation to the following landscaping companies ASAP:
      1. Full Circle
      2. Landscape
      3. Maciel Tree and Land
      4. Beetlebung Tree Care
      5. Middletown Nursery
      6. Contemporary Landscaping
3. Island Tree Update
  - a. Beach Leaf Disease

- i. Polly Hill, the WT Tree Warden, and Bartlett have all been getting calls from community members about BLD.
    - ii. Two treatments have shown some promise; Polyphosphite and Broadform. These are not a guarantee however, and much more research needs to be done.
    - iii. Tim noted that BLD has probably been here since 2020, considering the identification of it in Chilmark in 2021 and the extent of damage to large trees
    - iv. JT will send the group a good, comprehensive article on BLD that we can send to inquiring community members
  - b. Other issues seen on the island: pines browning out, which could be due to some sort of needle cast, drought, winter damage, or a combination; white prunicola scale on fruit trees and ornamental maples
- 4. Next Meeting Time, Date, Focus
  - a. Request for meeting change to evenings which works well for everyone – committee will plan to regularly meet at 5:30pm on the third Thursday of the month
  - b. The next meeting is **Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 5:30pm** at the Polly Hill Arboretum in the Education and Botany Lab
  - c. Next meeting will involve discussing received bid packages