

Minutes of Woodstock Tree Committee meeting 3/11/24

Arbor Day

Cindy sent an email to Francis at Catskill Native Nursery to find out what trees will be available for planting. She is considering a locust, larch, elm, or small-leafed oak. When asked if the nursery would be doing the planting, Cindy said we could do it unless it was very large. The school kids can help with the digging, but we will need a hand truck and a 6" battery-powered chain saw (Cindy has this). The date is Friday, April 26th, with a rain date on the following Monday, the 29th. Linda will ask the principal or the teachers if any classes are interested in attending and what time of day is good for them. The tree we plant will be the Chuck Davis memorial tree.

The Elm

Michael reported that the elm tree registration form is on line. The tree has to be 22" in diameter at chest height. We should find out if there are any other elms in the vicinity (maybe near the bagel shop?) M. said he thought there was one on Lower Byrdcliffe near Studio Lane. We should ask on Nextdoor Woodstock if anyone has seen an elm to please report it to the Tree Committee.

Reports

Carol will be donating money for two trees to be planted in the fall. One is a birthday gift to her from Paula Lachman and Barry Buchy of Swarthmore, PA. The other is in memory of Portia Bohn, an actor, writer and bon vivant who spent many years at Byrdcliffe and

whose ashes are scattered there. The Playhouse would be a good place to put that tree. A standing dead tree must be taken down and the bittersweet removed before a tree is planted. We need to speak to Randy at the Playhouse about it.

Michael asked Carol to call Bill McKenna about meeting the people at the Luthern Church.

Gay reported that the spotted lantern fly is coming. She recommended that we cut down as many Ailanthus trees as we can, since they are the host. Then we paint Roundup on the stump.

Achva said you can use copper nails instead of Roundup. Michael suggested a social media campaign to alert people about this situation. Cindy said there are many pages on facebook about the spotted lantern fly and that we shouldn't freak out and just let them run their course.

Pollinator pathways has put out a call to get rid of invasives. It is organizing a work force on May 4th at the Mountain View parking lot.

Linda said that Earth Day is April 20th. Michael will call the Environmental Commission to reserve a table at the youth center.

Gay reported on the tree law. She is waiting for Ed to look it over, but he has been very busy. Re: the shade tree overlay district... both Rhinebeck and Irvington have very good tree laws. Michael asked Gay to reach out to Rhinebeck to see how they did it. Gay said that they apparently have a 30ft. right of way and property owners who get a new tree must sign a contract promising to take care of it. They also have to deal with the D.O.T. because Main Streets are state roads.

Michael has signed up for the New Paltz Conference. He and Bennet are going and would welcome anyone else who wants to

come.

Gay brought up the idea of planting between the fences in the Mountain View parking lot next fall in order to create some shade on the blacktop. She spoke to Donny Allen, the highway superintendent, who seemed enthusiastic about it.

Linda said there is a movement afoot to put all agendas and meeting dates on line for transparency and so that the public can attend meetings.

Michael adjourned the meeting.