

## **THE MILFORD TREE COMMISSION**

### ***Minutes of the February 09, 2009 Meeting***

#### **A. ROLL CALL**

Commission Members Present:

Irwin Langewisch, Acting Chairman  
Kate Orecchio, Acting Vice Chairman  
Mary Ludwig  
George Noyes  
James Malaney

Alternates:

Dave Skirkanich

Absent:

Bryan Mancini

Recording Secretary:

Ray Kirmaier (for Lynne McNamee)

#### **B. CALL TO ORDER**

Acting Chairman Langewisch called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

#### **C. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

Mary Ludwig made a motion to accept the minutes to the meeting of Jan 12, 2009 with corrections as noted. Kate Orecchio seconded the motion. The minutes from the January 12, 2009 meeting were approved with changes.

#### **D. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

- Irwin was nominated as Chairman by Mary, and seconded by Kate. Vote was unanimous
- Kate was nominated for vice chair by my Mary, and seconded by Kate. Vote was unanimous.
- Irwin discussed the term for chairman and vice chairman should be limited to 2 years of duration in order to keep ideas fresh. This was accepted by a unanimous vote.

#### **E. WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

- I. Langewisch welcomed Dave Skirkanich as Alternate Member.

#### **F. TREE WARDEN REPORT**

- Not present.
- I. Langewisch said that he has not had the opportunity to speak with the tree warden recently. Now that the weather may be warming up, this will occur.

#### **F. ARBORETUM**

- Mary said they are still getting donations from Memorial Tree Foundation Dave Skirkanich discussed the use of a Val Pak mailer or similar to solicit donations for the Memorial Tree. Mary will look into this. Discussed how to communicate the Arboretum Project with the public. There is a tri fold of the tree walk and Milford Trees Inc is creating a blog where this information will be available.

- George Noyes asked about the threefold brochure and using the Foran High School Print Shop and take advantage of the equipment there and the labor of the students to print the brochure. Mary will speak with Bruce Blake regarding this effort.
- George Noyes spoke about a Tree Walk event, possibly conducted in association with an urban scavenger hunt, perhaps partnering with the Milford Chamber of Commerce incorporating the Tree Walk with historical locations in Milford.

#### **G. OPEN GRANTS & GRANT APPLICATIONS**

- M. Ludwig reported that the grant 08-09 USFS – Greening of the Post Road, Part III is awaiting mayoral signature, which is pending, and will likely be complete by February 10, 2009.
- The Westfield Project is on hold until warmer weather arrives.

#### **H. TREE INVENTORY / MANAGEMENT PLAN**

- I. Langewisch asked that commissioners input (as requested last meeting) be sent in when it is completed by each commissioner.
- Mary said that 20 free trees will be coming from Planters' Choice.
- The inventory of salt tolerant trees was discussed in depth.

#### **I. STORM DAMAGE ASSESMENT**

- I. Langewisch reports that nothing has happened in this regard.

#### **J. TREE NURSERY**

- I. Langewisch reported that he did an inspection last week, and noted that a deer got through the fence, took a tour of the premises, but did no damage.

#### **K. STREET TREE REPLACEMENTS**

- I. Langewisch reminded that the needs of the Milford Senior Center should be kept in mind when considering this project. The Senior Center is having their drains repaired, and will likely require trees after the construction work is completed. Mary spoke with the Boy Scouts who are interested in helping with this effort.

#### **L. GREENING OF THE POST ROAD**

- *Addressed above under Grants.*

#### **M. EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES**

- Irwin said that there was a presentation given by Clair Rutledge of Milford Trees at the Milford Library last Saturday, which was well received. Milford Trees is donating \$50.00 to the Agricultural Station in recognition of Claire's presentation.

#### **N. INTER-AGENCY REVIEW MATTERS**

- Kate initiated a discussion regarding the 417 Gulf Street Property (Interagency Review Project #4). Discussion included the removal of the chestnut, privets and

leaving some fir trees for privacy, planting dogwood trees, and generally mixing up the plantings to include cherry trees.

***OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS: (non classified)***

***Milford Trees awarded an Arbor Citation from Connecticut Tree Protection Association at their recent Winter Conference for the planting and caring of trees. The City of Norwalk also received a similar award.***

***Mary Ludwig is Chair of the Urban Forest Council who (in co-operation with NRG Energy) awarded \$3,000 to Connecticut Girl Scouts and \$10,000 to Urban Forest Council for statewide Tree Planting. NRG is also speaking of future work together. Mary will be attending a meeting in Hartford in this regard.***

***On May 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009, there will be an Art Show on the green which the Tree Commission will be participating. This may be a good opportunity to use the Arboretum display.***

**O. ADJOURNMENT**

- Mary moved to adjourn the meeting, J. Malaney seconded the motion, the committee voted and the motion was carried unanimously.
- The February 9, 2009 meeting of The Milford Tree Commission was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

The minutes of the meeting of The Milford Tree Commission held February 09, 2009 are respectfully submitted,

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Ray Kirmaier

For

Lynne McNamee

Recording Secretary