

THE MILFORD TREE COMMISSION

Minutes of the August 14, 2023 Meeting

A. ROLL CALL

Commission Members:

Bryan Mancini - Chairman
Jim Malaney - Co -Vice Chairman
Nancy Iddings – Co-Vice Chairman
Cheryl Cappiali
Connie Gaynor
Kelly Miller
David Skirkanich

Guests:

Steve Johnson, Tree Warden, City of Milford
Sara Lilley – Milford, CT

Recording Secretary:

Annie Mecca

A. CALL TO ORDER

Bryan Mancini called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

B. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

- Nancy Iddings made a motion to accept the minutes to the meeting on June 12, 2023. Connie Gaynor seconded the motion. The minutes from the June 12, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved.

C. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- Financial Update – As of July 31, the Financial Report is as follows: \$800.00 in Secretarial Fees, \$1,000.00 for Trees and Shrubs, \$1 for Travel, \$5.00 for postage, \$5.00 for Duplication, \$5.00 for Office Supplies and \$5.00 for Printing and Binding.

D. STREET TREE REPLACEMENTS/TREE REQUESTS

- Bridgeport Avenue – Devon – Meghan Sousa, of 321 Housatonic Drive in Milford, had brought up a Revitalization Project for the trees in that area. Steve Johnson had a meeting with her and indicated that Meghan Sousa had tracked down a report that states that the City of Milford is responsible for the care of the trees. More details will follow on this project.

E. TREE WARDEN APPEALS / STREET TREE MATTERS

- Tree Warden Postings – Review/Update
 - 61 Cheryl Ann Drive- Steve Johnson used a third-party vendor to look at the trees, but the trees are in good condition and do not need to be taken down.

These minutes have not been reviewed and approved.

- 37 Strawberry Hill Rd. – The discrepancy on the tree there that is indicated to be a Silver Maple; however, it is not. It is a Red Maple, and there may be a hearing on this issue. Steve Johnson will follow up.
- UI Update – Baxter Lane – Steve Johnson is working on a list of trees that are to be pruned for this area – more information to come.
- Beech Leaf Disease - Guest Sara Lilley of Milford asked Steve Johnson what the Commission was going to do regarding the Beech Leaf Disease affecting some Beech trees in Milford – Steve Johnson indicated that the City is not treating any diseases on any trees at this time, unless it is an historical tree in a prominent area. The treatments are cost prohibitive with no guarantee the treatments will cure the disease.

F. ARBORETUM

- 34' Red Maple near Scratch Baking – Steve Johnson indicated the tree has been taken down and the hole in the trunk has been covered for safety.
- Tree Walk – Kelly Miller indicated that the Milford Tree Walk will be taking place on November 18 on the Green from 11:00am – 2:00 pm. more details will be coming soon.

G. TREE ORDINANCE – Final Review before submittal – Bryan Mancini has sent the document to the City's Attorney's office for final review. We are waiting for a response.

H. TREE HONOR PROJECT – Nancy Iddings updated us on this project to honor some of Milford's "Most Distinguished Trees." The two nominees are a Copper Beech at 33 Hawley Ave., and a Copper Beech at 175 Gulf Street. Certificates have been prepared and mailed to the owners. Other nominees are a Sycamore at 274 Naugatuck Ave., and an American Basswood near Parsons. A possible ceremony may take place to honor them at the upcoming Tree Walk. More details to follow.

I. NEW BUSINESS

- None at this time.

These minutes have not been reviewed and approved.

L. INTER-AGENCY REVIEWS

- 534 Wheelers Farm Road – Boys and Girls Village –The plan for this project is a site plan with no actual plan for trees they are adding a canopy to a patio and a sidewalk turnaround – an existing tree is proposed to be removed. Bryan Mancini suggested they plant another tree to replace the one they are removing. The landscaping looks acceptable. Steve Johnson will also review these plans and Bryan Mancini will take a drive by.

M. ADJOURNMENT

- Kelly Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Cheryl Cappiali seconded the motion, the committee voted and the motion was carried unanimously. The August 14, 2023 meeting of The Milford Tree Commission was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

The minutes of the meeting of The Milford Tree Commission held August 14, 2023 are respectfully submitted,

By: _____
Annie Mecca, Recording Secretary