

Waterbury Tree Committee
Tuesday, September 21, 2021 – 5:00 p.m.
Unapproved Meeting Minutes

**Meeting convened at the Hope Cemetery located on Winooski St. at new tree
planting**

In attendance: Steve Lotspeich, Co-chair; Jane Brown, Co-chair; John Ringer; Stuart Whitney; Mike LoSchiavo

1. Agenda modifications
 - a. N/A
2. Public comment & announcements
 - a. The Tree Warden (Steve Lotspeich) addressed a tree cutting issue with a landowner and developer. The Tree Warden gave guidance, and the issue was resolved.
 - b. There will be a Tree Warden Training in Middlebury on October 16th, which Steve will take part in.
3. Review and approve minutes for meeting held on June 15th.
 - a. John Ringer moved and Stuart Whitney seconded the motion to approve the minutes for the meeting held on June 15, 2021. The motion was approved 4-0 (Jane Brown was not in attendance yet).
4. Update on the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Caring for Canopy grant project including the tree planting at Hope Cemetery adjacent to Winooski St., and the contract to remove roadside ash trees. Discuss processing the ash wood into firewood by volunteers and the associated fundraising project.
 - a. The plantings at Hope Cemetery are in and look good. Plan to mulch the trees in spring, along with the trees at the Maple Street Cemetery and those in the Waterbury Center Triangle Green.
 - b. The roadside ash trees are currently being removed by Potter's Tree Health Care. The estimate from Potter's was about \$4,500, but the overall budget was \$6,500. Steve will work with Potter's to add additional Ash to be removed.
 - i. The wood is being taken to the town's materials storage area near the Waterbury Ice Rink in log length form. It will be left there for firewood processing by the Waterbury Tree Committee and other volunteers. It is estimated that 5-6 cords of firewood will be generated, which will be sold, and profits will go to charity. The wood splitting event is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, October 30th.
5. Update on the 2021 Arbor Day Tree Planting grant for two new trees at Hope Davey Park in the vicinity of the picnic shelter, renovation of the hexagonal memorial bench, and the status of re-developing the nearby parking lot including future tree planting in the vicinity of the shelter.
 - a. Trees are being planted by Evergreen Gardens.

- b. **ACTION:** Reach out to Potter's to discuss having maple tree in the parking lot island pruned.
- 6. Discuss drafting a Tree Policy in order to be eligible to apply for Tree City USA designation.
 - a. **ACTION:** Policy to be drafted by Stuart using other town examples. First draft will be ready some time in November
- 7. Other business
 - a. Newton Baker Park: Jane raised the idea of the Tree Committee taking on a leading role in the beautification efforts of the park by adding additional plantings. The Tree Committee was agreeable. **ACTION:** Jane will investigate grants for additional tree plantings.
 - b. Discuss the need for a tree plan at Maple Street Cemetery and other areas. To discuss in more detail at the next meeting.
- 8. Schedule next meeting, tentatively on Tuesday, October 19th at 5:00pm, that can be in-person.
 - a. Meeting will start at Newton Baker Park.
- 9. Adjournment – the meeting adjourned at