Minutes of the Tree Preservation Subcommittee of April 25, 2016

Pursuant to a notice filed with the Town Clerk, the Tree Preservation Subcommittee met at 7:00 a.m. on April 25, 2016 in the first Floor Meeting Room, 141 Keyes Road, Concord, MA.

Members Present:
Tanya Gailus
Thandi Muno
Gail Magenau Hire
Elissa Brown, Chair
Christa Collins, Vice-Chair
Lydia Lodynsky, non-voting

Others Present:
Brook Whiting Cash, Planning Board Liaison
Elizabeth Hughes, Town Planner

The meeting commenced at 7:00 AM and was audio recorded. Ms. Lodynsky volunteered to take minutes.

Review of Subcommittee flyer/poster

Upcoming events include the West Concord Advisory Committee Open House on April 28th, Arbor Day on April 29th, and Earth Day/Musketaquid Celebrations on April 30th; the goal is to have subcommittee flyers available for distribution at all three events. Design, graphics and content were thoroughly reviewed, discussed and voted on with unanimous approval. Ms. Gailus suggested we consider printing out a smaller “calling card” version of the flyer; Ms. Cash stated that the Department did not have the resources to work on that project.

Discussion and completion of tree survey

The subcommittee continued their discussion of the tree survey targeting Concord residents. Topics requiring deeper discussion included regulation of trees on private property, property rights, economic value/benefits of trees, enhancement of personal property via trees, and the human emotional connection with trees. Regarding “forest management”, Ms. Hughes stated that “forest management is not within the realm of this committee”. Ms. Brown made a motion to adopt the survey as amended; Ms. Muno seconded; committee voted in favor.

Distribution of survey and flyer at upcoming events

With the flyer design and survey questions approved, Ms. Hughes stated that she could print flyers with the survey on the back by Tuesday, April 26. Ms. Collins will coordinate distribution of flyers at the West Concord Advisory Committee Open House on April 28th, Earth Day/Musketaquid Celebrations April 30th, Concord Coffee on May 3rd and Nashoba Brook Bakery in West Concord. Ms. Cash will participate in the Earth Day/Musketaquid efforts, and will also submit copies to the high school newsletters. “Sandwich Boards” which are used to post notices around the Town Center rotary will be available after the West Concord Open House event. Ms. Brown will attend and distribute flyers at the April 29th Arbor Day celebration in Town Center. Ms. Gailus will distribute flyers to her neighbors.

May 2nd Agenda Item

Ms. Hire and Ms. Lodynsky have both raised the need for a location of resources/links related to the subcommittee charge; the tree subcommittee webpage under concordma.gov will fill that void. Ms. Hughes and Ms. Brown have suggested that committee working groups submit a comprehensive list of what they’ve researched. If links to multiple articles are submitted, it was advised that a short summary of what is in that article be included with the link. This will be reviewed and discussed at the May 2nd meeting. The review of tree bylaws will be on the agenda for the following meeting.
The next meeting was scheduled for 7:00 AM, May 2nd.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 AM

Respectfully submitted,
Lydia Lodinsky