

Attending Committee Members: Mary Hogue (Chair), Jeff Minder (Tree Warden), Joe File, Tom Corell, Karin Layton, Dave McMahon, Misty Beyer and Karin Layton.

Minutes: The Minutes of the March 19, 2019 meeting were approved as submitted.

Tree Warden Report

Electric Utility's Enhanced Tree Trimming (ETT) Program

United Illuminating (UI), the electric distribution company that services Fairfield, is still working to completed the unfinished portions of its 2018 ETT Program. With respect to the 2019 ETT Program, UI has provided a list of approximately 60 Town roads on which it would like to work but has not yet provided information on the portions of those roads affected. To date, UI has completed its ETT work on only approximately 45 miles of Town roads. To measure the effectiveness of the ETT Program, the Town is currently investigating how recent power outages in areas in which the ETT work has been completed compare with those in areas in which it has not yet begun.

Although UI has advised that it does not proposes to utilize the Direct Contact provisions of CT Statute 16-234(e) in in connection with its 2019 ETT Program in Fairfield, the Committee will continue to monitor work with Representative Vahey on how to proceed.

Newsfeed Articles: The newsfeed article about the Town's 2019 Spring Tree Planting Program will be posted on the Committee Website shortly. The next article shall be on the Roots and Branches Program.

Tree Planting Program (TPP)

TPP Analysis

Dave McMahon reported that his work on a PSQL System utilizing the Google Cloud Platform to replace the Excel spreadsheet system currently used for the Committee's TPP database is continuing.

2019 Tree Inventory:

Jeff Minder reported that he currently has 64 trees in inventory and has ordered a total of 135 new trees from two nurseries. Those new trees should be delivered by mid-April. Jeff will send an electronic copy of lists of trees ordered and in inventory.

2019 Tree Sales

Joe File will prepare information sheets for use in connection with the selling of the trees available in the 2019 TPP. Sales should begin in April.



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2019 Neighborhood Foci

Tom Corell reported that Peter Kraus has provided a list of more than 20 residents in the Veres neighborhood who, as a result of his door-to-door campaign, have expressed an interest in participating in the 2019 TPP. This door-to-door campaign was substantially more effective than last year's mailing campaign in the same neighborhood. The Tunxis Hill neighborhood program is still progressing

Tree Survey: The Tree Survey is undergoing final revisions and will be available shortly to collect data for use in this years update of the Town of Fairfield Community Forest Management Plan.

Roots to Branches Workshop: The Workshop will be held at the Fairfield Museum and History Center on Saturday, 4/28 1-4pm. First Selectman Mike Tetreau will open the event. The Committee will present on the panel, and have an information table available throughout the Workshop. Jeff Minder will oversee an Arbor Day tree plating ceremony at the conclusion of the event.

Submitted 4/16/19
Joe File