

Palmer Arboretum Minutes
September 10, 2020

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

Attendance: Philippa Paquette, Jean Rocheleau, Andy Krofina, Jessie White

Absent excused: Chad Hart

3. Minutes of August 13, 2020 were accepted (Krofina/Rocheleau) all in favor.

4. Treasurer's Report: Regular Budget: \$5,020.00

Friends Fund: \$1,756.17 - \$1,500 contribution to repair of parking area

Balance: \$256.17

Jean reported that she had met with Karen Fitzpatrick and Jay Swan from the Town Hall, John Navarro and Kit Sear and discussed the driveway and parking lot issues that impact drainage into the Arboretum. Everyone is working together to minimize costs and complete the project in an effective and timely manner. An additional 3 inches of milled surface will be laid and then covered by sealer. The lower parking lot level will be raised to the height of the previous embankment and two trenches will be dug and lined with riprap to lead drainage into the catch basins. The available funding will not completely meet the cost of the project so some request for donations from the community may be necessary.

Mitch has reduced the frequency of mowing to once every two weeks as requested.

5. New Business a) Jean reported that she thinks the beetle damage to the Ash tree that Bill photographed and sent to U.Conn is suspected to have been caused by the Asian Longhorn Beetle and not the Ash Borer. She will talk to Bill and ask him to communicate the final analysis results to Philippa.

The damaged trees will be referred to Chad for recommendations. Philippa will contact him.

b) Garden tasks: weeding, weeding , weeding!

Sawing some tree branches from the willow and other trees that need spa treatment!

Weed wacking the swamp area and the bank. Andy will ask Chad to borrow his supa dupa wacker palooa and get it done!

c) Jessie's bank: two weeks after treatment this can be planted. Philippa and Andy will buy bulbs and we will all scrounge for day lilies. Mackey's may have some purple grasses (annuals or perennials?) Philippa will investigate! We can plant on October 3.

d) All set for LGV walks . Philippa picked up the supplies and the signs will be posted a few days ahead of each walk. Kit has agreed to come and open the WHS before each walk so that a bathroom is available if necessary. Andy and Philippa will sanitize before and after! The Historical Society will not open their building for walk throughs in conjunction with our walks.

6. Next work days: September 23, 9:00-11:00 October 3 9:00-11:00

Andy will contact Linda for possible Garden Club members.

7. Any other business: General expression of mourning for Jean's letter of resignation at the end of September because she is moving away. Committee agreed that with Zoom meetings , moving was not an acceptable excuse!. However Jessie agreed to take over as Treasurer and Jean will fill her in on all the arduous duties.

Meeting adjourned. 6:40

The recording of this meeting can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YgcFaZtHxAk&feature=youtu.be>