

Town of Littleton, Massachusetts

Public Shade Tree Committee

Meeting Date: March 26, 2025 5:30pm

Place: Littleton Police Station:

Present: Mathew Cahill, Steve Whitten, Kim Ahern, Jeannie Kingsley, Karen Morrison of the Select Board

The following items were discussed:

1. Mat made a motion to approve and accept the minutes of our last meeting on January 27, 2025. Kim seconded the motion, all were in favor and the motion passed.
2. Preparations for our annual tree giveaway are happening. It will be at the Russell St. School on Wednesday, April 16 at 2:15pm. The Garden Club had originally chosen Chokecherry, but some members thought that parents might object to reports of the plant's minor toxicity. The new selection is native Redbud. Unfortunately, Redbud is more expensive.
3. A detailed review of the Tree Bylaws was done, with edits and comments on the lengthy document. It clarifies standards and management of Public Shade Trees, and gives guidance on planting and removal. Mat has done almost all of the work, which is extensive, thorough, and necessary. We are hoping it will soon be reviewed by the Planning Board and then move forward to Town approval and become law.
4. There is an issue with the concept of a Tree Fund. There will need to be some work with the Finance Committee to see how monies received from citizens paying for new trees, as a result of removals, can be retained for new trees.
5. Ideas for new tree plantings and requests from citizens for trees were reviewed. Places suggested: Foster St., Russell St., Taylor St., the Veteran's Memorial on the Common, Fay Park and at the High School.
6. The meeting was adjourned at 7pm.