

**Village Green Committee**  
**Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at the Town Hall Annex**

**Minutes**

Attending: Felicia Sartell, Connie Kieley, Gail Cromwell, Honey Hastings, Carol Mamczak, Robin Downes, Peggy Cournoyer, Denise Collette Absent: Kathy Fedorka, Matt Cabana

Felicia call the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

1. Connie and Gail described their visit to Weston Nurseries in Hopkinton, MA where they spoke with the owner and were shown 15 Red Sunset red maple trees. The trees were grown in North Carolina but spent the winter in Massachusetts. They reserved one 3 – 3 ½ caliper tree that is about 15 feet tall with the root ball in burlap. The total cost is \$504.69 since we need to pay sales tax. At the last meeting we had authorized up to \$500. for the purchase of a replacement tree.

**MOTION: to approve the purchase of the tree described above for \$504.69**

Moved by Honey, seconded by Denise

Vote: All in favor

Gail called Sherry earlier to request a check in the above amount from the trust fund. She will have it ready tonight. Weston Nurseries will not transport the tree to their Chelmsford location, so it needs to be picked up. Denise offered the use of their 15 foot horse trailer to pick up the tree in an enclosed space protected from the wind. John will drive his truck with the trailer attached. Gail will go to complete the purchase. They will coordinate travel plans for next week. The highway department will do the planting in the location we choose. Gail will let everyone know when that will happen so we can attend. (action item)

2. Connie presented the receipt for \$221.45 from King Farm for reimbursement. This is for flowers purchased for town boxes and the memorial.

**MOTION: to reimburse Connie Kieley \$221.45 from the trust fund.**

Moved by Honey, seconded by Robin

Vote: All in favor

3. Gail asked about the letter to Sherry regarding the changes to account status. Sherry had replied that they will do it at their next meeting. Gail will remind her. (action item)

Peggy needed to leave at 1:50 for an appointment.

4. We discussed suggestions for replacement trees on the Common. A variety of ideas were expressed including Princeton Elm as seen on the Hopkinton, MA town common, other varieties of Maple, flowering trees such as Bradford Pear, Crabapple (small fruit) and Mock Orange.

Denise suggested we consider memorial trees. Some liked the idea as long as we choose the species and develop an overall plan first. A plaque would accompany the tree. Some questioned whether or not planting a living memorial was a sound idea since trees can die prematurely. The veteran's memorial tree was mentioned as an example. We are on our third tree in 18 years. This is an idea that we will consider. A tree is preferred over more granite on the common.

Honey shared the link <https://www.hebronnh.org/hebron-town-common-advisory-committee> and a few printed pages from the Hebron Town Common Advisory Committee web site. We could use this as a model. Gail suggested putting our inventory map on our web site. (action item)

**MOTION: to formally thank Alan Pickman for his dedication in producing and providing the VGC with a CAD drawing of the Common**

Moved by Connie, seconded by Denise

Vote: All in favor

Carol will send a card. (action item)

5. The gardening fundraiser starts tomorrow. Carol will ask Alanna to post a reminder on the web site. Denise will repost on Facebook. Felicia will remind Matt. (action item)

6. Discussion returned to the Common project. We discussed how to proceed. We decided our goals are:

1. contact three arborists and describe the scope of the request (5 sugar maples, evaluation and care), replacement suggestions (Carol)
2. consult landscape designer regarding aesthetics of replacement trees (Connie)
3. meet in late summer to develop long-term plan (balance shade, diversity, consider arborist's recommendations)

Denise needed to leave for an appointment.

7. 4/30/19 minutes

**MOTION: to accept the minutes**

Moved by Connie, seconded by Gail

Vote: All in favor

8. Municipal building gardens – Gail felt that the daffodils will need to be filled in again this fall. She did a second planting last fall and these look great. The first planting seems to have disappeared. Honey mentioned that the quarter millennial garden also needs new daffodils. Any changes to the other garden by the building will wait until next year since we have the tree project. Honey will prune dead branches from the lilacs.

9. Felicia suggested the 22<sup>nd</sup> or 23<sup>rd</sup> as planting days. We expect the weather to warm by then and we will still be in time for Memorial Day. The flowers we bought last week are keeping well at her house. We will need mulch and may need potting soil to add to what was saved.

**MOTION: to approve up to \$50. for Felicia to spend on potting soil and mulch for the flowers.**

Moved by Gail, seconded by Honey  
Vote: All in favor

10. We moved outside to identify the location for the new tree. After considering the surrounding birches and possibility of a nearby tree being replaced sooner rather than later, we agreed on a spot and marked it for the highway department for planting. We also noted the declining health of tree #3.

The meeting concluded at 3:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Mamczak, VGC Secretary