

**Town of Belgrade Tree Committee
July 18, 2006**

Call to Order

A meeting of the Belgrade Tree Committee was held on Tuesday, July 18, 2006, at the Belgrade Town Hall. Committee chairman, Kristie Wood, called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.

Ex officio members present:

tish carr, Belgrade Tree Warden

Carl Yeaton, Belgrade Cemetery Committee

Committee members present:

John Blasenak

Norma Blazer

Sylvia Coulombe

Loyce Hayslett

John Willey

Kristie Wood

Committee members absent:

Doug Wood

Sue Gawler

Phil Sprague

Introductions

Kristie Wood introduced Carl Yeaton to the committee. The committee welcomed Mr. Yeaton who was present by special invitation to encourage coordination among various members of the community—specifically as to activities, questions, and concerns about the town's trees.

Approval of Minutes

On motion made and seconded, the minutes of the meeting of June 20, 2006, were approved as corrected to reflect the proper name of Belgrade Girl Scout Troop 1599 whose members assisted with the planting of trees at Loon Cove on June 12.

Tree Planting on Main Street

On June 26 the following people helped plant the remaining three Project Canopy trees: Loyce Hayslett, Sylvia Coulombe and her son Ethyn Batchelder, Eric McGuire, Phil Sprague, tish carr, Dale Gilmour, Doug Wood, and Kristie Wood. The team digging on the Grover property encountered a large boulder which they removed from the ground and left on the surface near the newly-planted tree. Loyce volunteered to call Susan Grover to see if she wants help watering the new tree, which will require about 5 gallons of water every two days throughout the summer. At the same time, she will ask if the boulder is OK as it is currently placed—resting on the mulched area near the tree. Two trees were planted in the triangle area. Kristie will call Phil Sprague and ask him to check with these property owners to see if they want help watering the trees and/or if they would mind volunteers coming onto the property to water the trees this summer.

Marty Spann and Sylvia Coulombe have been checking on the trees at Loon Cove. The Loon Cove Citizens Association purchased a 90-gallon water tank and irrigator bags for these trees.

Status of Project Canopy Grant

Tish reported that she has not filed the final report with the grant sponsor yet as her preliminary final accounting indicates that only about half the total funds have been committed. Of the original \$2,575 grant, \$1,366.17 is committed to date—the difference due mainly to the discount given by Longfellow's Garden Center and O'Donal's. There was group discussion about projects that

would benefit the town if the sponsor would approve spending the remaining funds. These projects were identified:

- a. Planting additional trees at Hayden Park
- b. *Planting*¹ forsythia at Loon Call
- c. Planting evergreens across from Sunset Grill
- d. Planting trees/shrubs at Belgrade Central School
- e. Planting trees/shrubs on grounds of the North Belgrade Community Center
- f. Offering to purchase trees or shrubs for projects the Cemetery Committee is contemplating but otherwise would not have the funds for
- g. Clearing certain hazard trees on town property—specifically, hazard trees that were identified in the 1998 survey but were not removed at that time due to budget constraints
- h. Purchasing (for the town) water bags and/or a tank and hose to use for watering newly-planted trees

After discussion, Tish as Belgrade's Tree Warden agreed to evaluate these suggestions, prioritize them, and to prepare estimates for the projects that would most benefit the town. She will e-mail the information she collects to each committee member. We will then prepare a written proposal to the Project Canopy sponsors and request to spend the additional funds. This will delay completing the final Project Canopy report.

Tish also reported that \$2,800 of the required match of \$3,400 over a 3-year period has been met to date.

Future Committee Projects

At the last meeting Norma suggested that we post answers to questions we'd expect the people who live in and visit the town to ask about trees and tree stewardship at the town's website www.belgrademaine.com. Before the next meeting, Norma will inquire who manages the web site and how we would go about posting information such as this at the web site.

Sylvia will contact Joyce Grondin, the editor of the Capital Weekly, to see if she will write an article about the June 12 tree planting at Loon Cove.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Belgrade Tree Committee will be held at the Town Hall on Tuesday, August 15, 2006.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 6: 40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Norma Blazer, Recording Secretary

¹ "Replacing forsythia" corrected to "Planting forsythia" to more accurately state the proposed use of funds.