

Chaplin Arboretum Commission
Minutes for Meeting on June 27, 2023

1. Meeting was called to order at 3:04 PM
2. In attendance were members: Helen Weingart, Dave Stone, and Leslie Ricklin
Dave nominated Helen for the office of Chair, seconded by Leslie. So moved
Helen nominated Leslie for the office of Secretary, seconded by Dave. So moved
Leslie nominated Dave for the office of Treasurer, seconded by Helen. So moved
3. Meetings will be held quarterly on the 4th Tuesday of the month on the following dates: July 25, October 24, January 23, 2024, and April 23, 2024.
4. Helen passed out sample narratives from other arboretums which can be used to create a write up for our town website. Leslie agreed to write a draft statement to be discussed at the next meeting.
5. Discussion on items included in a maintenance plan for the arboretum followed:
 - a. Plan for replacement of trees this spring: Dave has replanted 4 forsythia bushes. He has to identify a location for Helen's prickly pear trees.
Blueberry bushes will be relocated in July,
 - b. Review plan to replace damaged trees: Need to replace the Ben Chaplin white oak and the spice bush. Dave said that he will do a health assessment of all the trees later in July
ACTION: Dave moved to allocate up to \$450.00 to buy a white oak and spice bush. Leslie seconded. So moved.
 - c. Identification of trees: establishing a QR code, tree tags, and putting the logo on plaques will be determined at a future meeting.
 - d. Identify trees needing weeding and a source of mulch: All trees need weeding. Dave will provide a fresh mulch. Discussion followed about how to create a source of volunteer: Dave volunteered to develop a Facebook page and use the Town's Google Groups sight; Helen will develop a list of email addresses of people who helped in the past.
ACTION: A decision was made to plan a Work Party to weed/mulch on Monday, July 17 at 6:00 for a group to start this project.
 - e. When fencing is needed to protect trees from deer and beavers: Dave said that he'll identify which trees need fencing in Sept. and develop a materials list. This will be further discussed at the next meeting on July 25.
 - f. Identify plaques that have to be replaced: Helen will make a count of those which are worn or have been damaged by mowing. A future plan and budget will be made to replace a given number each year as needed.
6. Current budget : Dave will come to the next meeting with current figures to be discussed.

7. Friends of the Arboretum: we will be developing a list of volunteers
8. Fundraising: Discussion included getting some clothing items to sell at Chaplin Day on Sept. 9.
ACTION: Dave moved to allocate up to \$300.00 on sample arboretum attire.
Leslie seconded, So moved. Dave will work on this.
9. Future discussions:
 - a. Need for by-laws: members agreed that we should have them. Helen offered to make a draft.
 - b. Developing a relationship with the Last Green Valley to support and advertise the arboretum:
ACTION: Dave moved to table this discussion till the Oct. meeting.
Leslie seconded. So moved.
10. Items for next agenda: Chaplin Day
11. Next meeting: July 25, 2023 at 3:00
12. Adjourn: Leslie moved to adjourn, Dave seconded. So moved: 4:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Ricklin, Secretary