

**Tree Planting Committee Meeting & Tree Removal Hearing**  
**Tuesday, April 19, 2016 5:30PM**  
**Brookline Town Hall, Room 408**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Hugh Mattison (Chair), Elizabeth Erdman

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Nadine Gerdts

**STAFF PRESENT:** Tom Brady, Brittany Bonney

**PUBLIC HEARING: DISCUSSION OF ARTICLE 11 TREE PROTECTION BY-LAW**

E. Erdman provided a brief summary from the Advisory Committee meeting on Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, where they held a public meeting and discussed Article 11. The Committee agreed that they supported the goal to discourage clear cutting and discussed the loop holes and budget issues in the article. The Committee ultimately voted to have the Tree Protection By-Law presented to the Zoning By-Law Review Committee with no stipulation that it has to come back by a specific date.

R. Murphy provided photos as examples of a before/after clear cut lot. He explained that no trees on the property that were cut down were replaced. The developers took the cheapest route as far as landscape is concerned.

The Committee looked at the draft written by H. Mattison. T. Brady suggested the information be consolidated and have a concise recommendation from the TPC.

The Committee discussed their reactions to the proposed by-law:

- Too broad, doesn't deal with the issue or funding
- Needs refinement in terms of procedures and protocols to make sure it is crafted to our specific community
- Agree with its intent
- If the by-law is to be improved, would need to include appropriate staffing and funding
- Not convinced that a standalone by-law is the way to achieve pertaining goals
- E. Erdman pointed out that the Stormwater and Sediment Control By-Law has been created since this Tree Protection By-law was written, which changes things

The Committee discussed their options for a response to Article 11. The Committee recognizes that since the Tree Protection By-Law was written, development has changed (urbanization), political understanding has changed, stormwater management has changed. T. Brady asked the Committee to come up with 3-4 bullet points to summarize a recommendation. The Committee discussed if we want to speak to a specific study committee. E. Erdman will draft the language.

*H. Mattison moved to continue the public hearing to Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm. E. Erdman seconded.*

*H. Mattison moved to adjourn. E. Erdman seconded. All in favor.*