

Tree Planting Committee Meeting & Tree Removal Hearing
Monday, May 9, 2016 5:30PM
Brookline Town Hall, Room 408

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nadine Gerdts, Elizabeth Erdman

MEMBERS ABSENT: Hugh Mattison

STAFF PRESENT: Tom Brady, Brittany Bonney

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

- The Committee reviewed the Reports of Selectmen and Advisory Committee on Warrant Article 11.
- The Board of Selectmen and Advisory Committee voted to send the Article to a Selectmen's Committee.
- N. Gerdts asked why a Selectmen's Committee rather than a Moderator's Committee. T. Brady said he is not sure, perhaps because the bylaw was already in a Moderator's Committee.
- The B.O.S. said they would like to see the ZBA reactivated in the discussion and decision process.
- N. Gerdts said the bylaw is a worthy cause and it would be valuable to get a group together to look at zoning and conservation issues. She said there are 2 issues raised in this bylaw; trees on private property and how to preserve them and a second issue of clear cutting for development. The way the bylaw is currently written, has loopholes.
- E. Erdman spoke of the 2 very different tree protection bylaws in Newton and Lexington.
- She said the Committee will need to look at where the gaps are, to supplement with this bylaw. Zoning is not participating right now but they will need to.
- T. Brady asked the members if they concur with the Board of Selectmen's recommendation.
- N. Gerdts said yes, and would like to see a member of the Conservation Commission, as well as Zoning on the Committee.
- The Committee went through the draft language submitted by E. Erdman and made edits.
- T. Brady suggested we give the Chair the draft language to work with and sign.
- The Committee agreed that the Chair will sign off on the final language and submit for Town Meeting.

N. Gerdts moved to adjourn and close the hearing. E. Erdman seconded. All in favor.