

Town of Hingham



Tree Preservation Study Committee

Minutes

March 9, 2021

6:00 P.M.

1. Call to order

Priya Howell called the meeting to order at 6:18 PM. Members in attendance were Priya Howell, Katie McBrine, Heather Kaas, and Ben Smith. Member not in attendance was Rebecca Mullaley.

2. Approve minutes

The committee unanimously approved the minutes as submitted for the November 30, 2020, December 16, 2020 and January 7, 2020 meetings as submitted.

3. Public comments

Michelle Larned of Hingham commented that there are potential grants available regarding tree preservation and will forward additional information to the committee.

4. Discussion among committee members and any other members of town boards/committees present

Priya Howell provided updates on the Conservation Commission meeting and Advisory Sub-Committee meeting. Both meetings are recorded and available for public view. It was determined that the submission of the draft Zoning By-Law was not considered timely for the regular 2021 Annual Town Meeting and the committee will continue to push forward in order to get the By-Law on a subsequent Town Meeting. In the Advisory meeting, the participants discussed the difference between Zoning and General By-Laws. If Zoning is preferred, then the existing Draft can be moved forward and the Planning Commission can oversee; if General is preferred, then a new Tree Commission would be formed that subsumes the existing Shade Tree Commission and manages the overall process.

5. Any other business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance

There were no additional items from any attendees.

6. Next steps

Priya Howell will continue to work with Becky Mullaley to get the committee and draft on the Planning Board agenda in order to move forward with key decisions regarding the By-Law.

7. Motion to adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 PM