

Chaplin Bicentennial Arboretum Commission
Special Meeting Minutes
February 27, 2024

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:01 by Helen Weingart, chair. Dave Stone and Leslie Ricklin were also present.
2. Minutes approved: Leslie moved, Dave seconded to approve minutes of Oct. 24, 2023. So moved.
3. Budget Report: The treasurer, reported the following as of Feb. 6, 2024:
 - a. Restricted funds: \$3874.78 and in b. General funds: \$1331.26. He reported that a budget request was submitted to the Finance Board for \$2000.00. Several donations have been received in memory of Guy Ricklin after Feb. 6.
4. Continuing business:
 - a. Update on the health of trees. Dave said that most plantings are healthy.
--Replacements: the Mountain Laurels have some deer damage and have a leaf disease. They need to be sprayed with fungicide. Two bushes need to be planted. The Pitch Pine needs copper. Dave is monitoring the Tupelo and the Ash. He has most of what he needs to attend to these problems from materials bought by the Arboretum. **Dave moved to spend \$200.00 to purchase BioRush to apply to the roots of trees for health. Helen seconded. So moved.**
--Tree requests: the Commission decided to start a small grove of Pitch Pines as they are rare in Chaplin. **Leslie moved, Dave seconded to purchase 2 Pitch Pines for up to \$400.00 to be planted in memory of Guy Ricklin. So moved.**
 - b. Tree identification markers: These are rectangular aluminum markers containing basic information plus a QR code and number of the tree as it appears on the map. These would be affixed to a wooden post. Discussion followed about how many markers to buy. **Dave moved to purchase up to \$800.00 for tree identification markers and materials (if needed). Helen seconded. So moved.**
Helen asked Dave to create a template for the tree identification markers and she and Leslie will each select 5 trees to start developing the content.
 - c. Update on Maintenance Chart. Dave will work on this.
 - d. Fundraising—postponed to a later meeting.
5. New Business
 - a. and c. Work Plan/Arbor Day observance: Dave suggested a day for a work party to apply the BioRush to be April 26 at 5:00, which is Arbor Day. Rain date: April 27.
 - b. Memorial plaque replacement: Helen will do an inventory to see how many plaques must be replaced and get a quote. We'd like these replaced by Arbor Day.

Dave moved; Leslie seconded to spend up to \$300 on memorial plaques. So moved.

- d. Future Arboretum accreditation timeline: Helen will report findings at April meeting.
 - e. Educational activities: once the identification markers are in place, we can begin to offer programs.
 - f. Meeting schedule revision: After some discussion and agreement that January is not a good month for a meeting, **Helen made the motion to change the meeting schedule to March, May, July, and October. Dave seconded. So moved.** This year will be March 26, May 28, July 23, Oct. 22. Due to regulation, March 26 will be a special meeting,
6. Correspondence: none.
7. Agenda items for next meeting: make quarterly updates as a standing item on agendas.
8. Meeting adjourned at 4:22.

Expenses thus far: \$200.00 to be taken from General Funds
\$400.00 to be taken from General Funds
\$300.00 to be taken from General Funds
\$800.00 to be taken from Restricted Funds

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Ricklin, Secretary