

## **VOM Tree Committee Minutes – December 19, 2022**

The meeting began at 7:38 pm

Beverley Sherrid, Wendy Zoland, Sarah Evans, Tom Murphy, Laura Horner, Jarret Williams, Caroline Williams, Don Rossi atty for 120 Osbourn

### **Comments from residents**

Mssrs. Rossi and Williams explained the reasons for appealing the tree permit application decision at 120 Osbourn Ave. Mrs. Sherrid said that the matter had been referred to the Village Attorney for an opinion. She also explained the goal of the replanting requirement in the tree law.

Ms. Horner described the recent large-scale removal of trees by MetroNorth in the vicinity of its parking lots and other property. The work was done without notice to the Village; the Village Manager arrived after he was alerted by residents and was able to modify the work order slightly. MetroNorth's position is that it is authorized by NYS to do whatever work it deems necessary for line maintenance.

Ms. Horner further alerted the committee to NYS Senator Shelley Mayer's pending bill that would require commuter transit companies to practice responsible vegetation management and communicate with affected communities. She encouraged everyone to write to Gov. Hochul in support of <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2021/S7427>

### **Correspondence**

Emails from seven residents were discussed.

### **Old Business**

List of VOM trees identified by committee members for inspection, maintenance, or removal sent to DPW. A google spreadsheet will be created by Ms. Mignano so members may add to the list directly.

### **Fall planting**

238 bare root trees were ordered based on an initial list of recommended locations. A large number of locations were later eliminated because of underground utilities or residents declining the trees. 50 have been potted, insulated, and held over for Spring planting.

VOM and MNR representatives met 10/27/2022 to discuss VOM request to replant evergreen screen along Bishop Ave embankment.

Tree Walk October 30 was very successful, about a dozen people attended

Citizen Pruners Workshop November 5 was led by George Profous, NYS DEC Forester. Two-hour workshop, attended by six residents, was excellent.

Rockland Pocket Park land was cleared and planted by volunteers and DPW. Donated pollinator plants and two VOM white oak trees are in the ground, additional trees will be ordered by VOM next Spring.

The Mamaroneck Public Library will plant a tree in Harbor Island Park near the Rushmore Ave playground on 3/25/2023 as part of its centennial celebrations.

The next Tree Walk will be on 2/12/2023 in Columbus Park at 1:00 pm.

The committee discussed changing the week night for monthly meetings in 2023.

Meeting ended at 9:02 pm.