Point Paper #11 Trees

Over the last 3-1/2 years the DPW has planted 291 trees. There is a good variety and the engineering department has a fairly accurate listing of where and when the trees were planted. We have utilized a college student intern to help manage the program and both Jocelyn and Molley have done a very good job. Janine maintains a list of residents that wish to have a tree planted at their property and we do the best as we can to accommodate each request. Paul Raskevitz and I have selected and purchased the trees from Amherst, Sugar loaf and Wanczyk Nurseries. We also purchased several fruit trees from Agway in Greenfield. During the last four years Eversource has donated 37 trees. They did inform us that this was the last year of that program. Kostanski Funeral donates $1000 to $2500 /year for trees. This money goes into a revolving fund and it is used to plant trees. We try to acknowledge both Eversource and Kostanski during the Arbor Day tree planting. Berkshire Gas was donating funds towards the tree program. They donated nearly $35,000 during the last three years. I had an informal agreement with the gas company and they donated $200/ house on any roadway that they could use the grass strip to install a new gas main. This funding was to plant trees. This program was stopped this spring and a new permit application is being developed and all of the proceeds will go into the general fund.

This year we received a $5,000 matching grant from DCR. The point of contact is Julie Coop and her e-mail is Julie.coop@state.ma.us and her tel. # is 617 626 1468. We have completed all the work required for the grant and it has been submitted to Ms. Coop. We were inspected by DCR and passed. The only item that they may need is the cancelled checks and Janine will forward them as soon as they come in and are processed. Paul Raskevitz is the lead from the DPW staff.

We have the possibility of receiving a large grant from the US Forestry Service. This grant could be 1000 trees with some assistance and would be over a three years period. We ranked very high on this grant application and should know this summer. That is a lot of trees and what I would suggest is maybe work with Turners Fall and share maybe a third. The Point of Contact is Robert O’Conner and his e-mail is Robert.oconner@state.ma.us. Also Julie Coop will be able to help.

I don’t believe that planting trees in the grass strips is good policy and I don’t recommend that the City DPW should plant any tree in a grass strip that is less than 6 feet in width. If a volunteer group wishes to gamble with their funds, then maybe a few in the grass strips as long as they are over four feet in width and not under power lines. These trees should be smaller trees so that they don’t interfere with sidewalks and roadways.

We have a very good program, maybe one of the best in the state. We have helped create an edible park at four corner school, and assisted the Community Center with their landscaping. I
hope at some point in the future the DPW get the credit we deserve. We have been a Tree City USA for 16 years.
Hope this work if not send me a FAX # Don

Perfect – thanks Donald! From: Donald Ouellette

My pleasure!

Don,

Hope all is well with you. I wanted to give you an update on this grant. It has been
Although we can't make an announcement yet, we expect to be able to move forw

Thanks for your help with this application and I look forward to working with you

Bob

From: Donald Ouellette
Sent: Monday, October 02, 2017 5:24 PM
To: O'Connor, Robert (EEA)
Submit what you have for now.

Julie Coop
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Urban & Community Forestry Coordinator
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Boston, MA 02114-2119
Tel: 617-626-1468
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From: Donald Ouellette [mailto:donald.ouellette@greenfield-ma.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2018 11:49 AM

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