



Lori Canapinno <icanapinno@matthewsnc.gov>

Fwd: May 20th 2013 A & T Board Minutes

1 message

Ralph Messera <rmessera@matthewsnc.gov>
 To: Lori Canapinno <icanapinno@matthewsnc.gov>
 Cc: "Brenda Messera (home)" <brendacm@windstream.net>

Fri, May 24, 2013 at 10:58 AM

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From: **John Higdon** <john.higdon@conbraco.com>
 Date: Fri, May 24, 2013 at 9:29 AM
 Subject: re: May 20th 2013 A & T Board Minutes
 To: "Brian Allio (brian.allio@brickmangroup.com)" <brian.allio@brickmangroup.com>, "Carol Buie-Jackson (buie429@gmail.com)" <buie429@gmail.com>, "Tarbabygrad (tarbabygrad@aol.com)" <tarbabygrad@aol.com>, "Ralph Ramsaur (rramsaur@matthewsnc.gov)" <rramsaur@matthewsnc.gov>
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Chair Brian Allio called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Board members John Higdon, Carol Buie-Jackson, Dianne Thomas and town Landscape Manager Ralph Ramsaur were in attendance.

Brian opened the meeting with a discussion of starting a tree banding effort in Matthews to fight the seemingly biblical scale of canker worms we have seen of late, an idea first proposed by Public Works Director Ralph Messera. Canker worms are notorious for defoliating trees, and when they strike an already drought or otherwise weakened tree, they can cause its death. Charlotte has successfully run a tree banding program for many years. The banding is usually done in late fall, and involves placing a band of tape around the tree to be protected, and the tape then slathered with Tanglefoot, a resin and castor oil based insect barrier product with the consistency of pine tar. Climbing insects are caught in the barrier and find themselves entrapped in a sticky situation. John agreed to approach David Blackley to see if Renfrows would consider offering tree banding kits (Tanglefoot, tape, instructions) at a nominal cost to encourage our residents to participate. The only way the

program can be successful is if we have widespread participation, and the needed wide-scale effort is beyond the scope of what town employees could do alone. It was suggested that perhaps the A & T Board could hold a public workshop showing the correct method of banding.

Under old business, Brian agreed to contact Communications Director Annette Privette Keller to discuss the Tree of Distinction program. The A & T Board prepared sample brochures describing our vision of how such a program might work several months ago, and we now need the town's input and approval before publicizing the program to our residents. All agreed the program could be very successful, and provide much needed additional funds to the town to plant and maintain trees.

Ralph reported that roses planted along the Highway 51 medians are doing well and have generated favorable comments.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

John Higdon
A & T Board Secretary

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