Call To Order: Allen called the meeting to order at 6:13 PM.

Roll Call: Present were: Allen Owen, Chair; Pat Karspeck, Vice Chair; Grant Steffen, Secretary; Milan Karspeck; Anthony Frederick; Bob Schneider; Laura Davis; Paul Alaback, Town Board Liaison; Josh Embrey, Town Forester, and Will Karspeck, Town Mayor.

Committee Nominations: This action was tabled until the next meeting. Milan will check the records to determine the exact time in office of each committee member. These terms must be either terminated or extended every three years.

Approval of Minutes from August Meeting: These were approved without change.

Staff Reports: Josh reported that The Planning Commission had asked him to bring to this committee for its approval their recommendation that the number of tree per species allowed at entry ways to new developments be increased from 6 to 9. The committee unanimously voted “no”, stating that species diversity should be maintained.

Mayor Will Karspeck asked to address the committee. He believes that communication between all committees and the Town Board (TB) needs to be improved. He expects the TB trustees to ask the Tree Advisory Committee (TAC) for specific recommendations. He wants the TAC and all committees to have a more clear roll in decisions made by the board, and as a corollary, to clarify the status and function of all other committees. He believes that a direct report of the TAC chair to the TB may improve communication, but that this report would not necessarily diminish the importance or involvement of the TB liaison to the TAC.
Milan agreed that quarterly reports by the chair should occur. Also, the Mayor will ask the TB to clarify the relations between the TAC, the Town Forester, and the TB.

Finally, the Mayor stated that many board members recognize the need for a town nursery.

The committee members expressed their appreciation to the Mayor’s concerns and plans for the future.

Octoberfest 2018: This will take place on October 6 and the TAC will have a booth.

Discussion of Proposed Nursery: Pat again visited the Greeley Nursery and has concluded that the drip system of watering is superior to either overhead sprinkling or flooding. She also described the “bag system” of planting and believes that this is superior to either bare-root planting or the pot system.

Allen reaffirmed the committee’s need to recommend to the TB a site for an experimental nursery. Pat recommended three sites for consideration; the town cemetery, the Waste Water Treatment Plant, and the Northern Water facility. She asked that TAC members meet at the cemetery next Monday at 6 PM to begin a site survey.

Adjourn: Allen adjourned the meeting at 7:37. The next meeting will be on October 22.

Addendum: The following committee members met at the cemetery on September 24; Allen Owen, Pat Karspeck, Milan Karspeck, Anthony Frederick, Laura Davis, Grant Steffen, and Bob Schneider. They concluded that this site would probably be available from the town and that water could be supplied from the cemetery system. They then
visited the Waste Water Treatment Plant and concluded that non-potable water would be available there (a cost savings) but that site preparation needs would be extensive. They next visited the town’s Pioneer Park and concluded that there are areas there that would accommodate a small experimental nursery, that water is available, that site preparation needs would be minimal, and that access is much easier for volunteer workers than either the cemetery or the treatment plant.

Submitted by Grant Steffen, Secretary