

From: "Jim Feeney" <JFeeney@town.arlington.ma.us>  
To: ArlTreeCmte@gmail.com  
Cc: "Tim Lecuivre" <TLecuivre@town.arlington.ma.us>  
Date: Fri, 07 Aug 2020 14:13:14 -0400  
Subject: Old Burying Ground - Masonry Wall Restoration

Good afternoon MaryEllen,

I write in regards to an upcoming project at the subject-referenced site. The perimeter wall of the site will soon be repaired and/or rebuilt along its full length. In some areas, the wall is integral to earthen mound tombs. This work is being funded by Community Preservation Act grants approved by Town Meeting in both FY20 & FY21.

Unfortunately, there are 5 healthy trees requiring removal. These trees would otherwise require a tree hearing should they be located in the tree belt. With that in mind, and in line with other Town projects, the project team has been consulting with the Tree Warden at various points during the design process. The trees are presently damaging property protected by a historic preservation restriction, and similarly prevent safe access for repairs. These are all volunteer trees growing in inopportune locations, including against walls, and into and on top of tombs.

The trees are as follows:

Elm	15" DBH (this tree is proximal to 2 other Elms which recently succumbed to DED)
Sugar Maple	16" DBH
Crabapple	6" DBH
Norway Maple	16" DBH
Norway Maple	17" DBH

Working again with the Tree Warden, the Town identified 5 suitable sites away from monuments and headstones in the grounds for tree replacement. Many of these locations would replenish prior losses of the intentionally planted trees.

Further, Tree Specialists, Inc. was contracted to perform a level 2 visual tree assessment for all 57 trees located within the confines. In addition to the selected removals described above, the scope of work will involve maintenance pruning of crowns and girdling roots, as well as selected plant healthcare for the remaining old-growth core canopy in accordance with recommendations from Tree Specialists, Inc.

In consultation with the Town Manager, and due to COVID-operations, the project team intends on bringing this matter before the Select Board at their next virtual meeting on August 17th; however, we did not want to do so without first making the Tree Committee aware of this matter. I have attached a site plan indicating the locations of the trees, as well some present-day pictures for review.

Please do not hesitate to let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jim

James Feeney  
Interim Facilities Director  
Town of Arlington  
730 Massachusetts Avenue  
Arlington, MA 02476  
(781) 316-3110