

TREE ADVISORY BOARD

VILLAGE OF COLD SPRING

MEMBERS: TONY BARDES; CHARLES DAY; KORY RIESTERER; GORDON ROBERTSON; JENNIFER ZWARICH

2/27/2017

MEETING MINUTES

7:30pm Butterfield Library

Present: Tony Bardes, Charles Day, Kory Riesterer, Gordon Robertson, Jennifer Zwarich.

Summary:

TAB convened at 7:32pm.

Approval of 1/25/17 meeting minutes passed 5-0.

Visit from Greg Mercurio, former ISA Arborist and current NYS certified Landscape Architect tabled due to Mr. Mercurio not being present.

OLD BUSINESS

1. DEC Grant application: VBOT approved the grant and TAB voted 5-0 to approve. Shady Lane Campaign is collaborating with CSTAB for grant.
2. Grant includes following:
 - a) Approximately 46 trees for maintenance, of those 18 warrant removal according to arborist. Stump grinding of the removed trees, as well as several current stumps in village, to be done by village HWY with rented equipment.
 - b) Permeable pavers also included in grant for main street open stone dust pits to help avoid heaving of new sidewalk by providing a place for roots to prefer to grow.
 - c) Tree pit widening of several problem areas.
- d) Tree guards for some of the younger trees on main street to protect from damage.
- e) Tree tags to correspond with inventory IDs and GIS map that will aid in identifying and communicating about trees with contractors, utilities and the public.
3. Miscellaneous Updates
 - a) Main St. Beautification improvement zone – status remains same. In spring, TAB will release a press report for website and news about beautification zone.
 - b) Main St. Sidewalk project: village is negotiating costs and timing involved in buying/planting the trees with Con Tech. VBOT will keep TAB advised. GR noted that he would like VBOT to clarify status of original grant (whether the village is closing out grant etc.) There was discussion of technicalities of grant status as it relates to the contractor's delay with the tree portion of the project. TAB already gave VBOT tree stock & materials cost estimates (not labor estimates) for finishing the project if the contractor does not follow through.
 - c) Cold Spring Boat Club cooperative project proposal – GR gave update on project. Originally club discussed planting trees or hedge and are now considering a staggered line of Bayberry shrubs, suitable variety recommended by CD. Bayberry should be planted in zigzag fashion alternating male and female plants given eventual height differential. Club offering to donate 2k to village for hedge and donate labor to install (since members need to put in work hours anyway). GR has also offered his backhoe for project. He reported there is potential for flexibility of available funds depending on

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price of hedge stock at time of purchase. Hedge will not grow tall enough to obscure neighbors' views but will provide some screening/privacy to the boat club. TAB will first present an informal proposal to VBOT as a positive collaborative project between village and boat club to gauge interest. JZ noted it was important to make sure residents nearby were all on board. She also wondered if there was now room potentially for a large shade tree near the picnic area where overhead wires had been removed? GR said the issue there might be with residents' views. TAB members agreed it was time to present project idea to VBOT and GR said he would draft a brief narrative describing the project for JZ to edit and present to trustees.

- d) Work Orders for HWY crew – suggestions made by TB. He discussed HWY crew outstanding work on the fall-planted trees (staking, mulching, removing string tie lines, replanting the Linden tree that was planted too deeply etc.) It was agreed JZ would attach a suggested work order of outstanding issues to her monthly VBOT reports. GR mentioned including detailed instructions on how to lift a tree (Linden) planted too deeply to the work order.

NEW BUSINESS

- 4. Spring 2017 Plan: finish Main St. beautification zone and create space for TAB at HWY dept. – at same time as space is designated (for storing trees, mulch drop off etc.) TAB would like to offer HWY crew a hands-on workshop/training session in spring led by TB and/or CD. TAB members all agreed that communication and collaboration are key! TB also brought up again the idea of a monthly column in local papers for public outreach/education. CD brought up the two splitting Zelkova trees in front of C&E Hardware on Main St. as looking worse. Brief discussion followed on general health of Zelkovas throughout village and their susceptibility to an as yet undefined weakness/disease. Several professionals have been consulted and it has confounded everyone. GR mentioned he'd heard of a safe 'binding agent' that is sprayed on mulch to keep it in place. CD said he would look into finding out more about this product.
- 5. Correspondence
- 6. Public Comment – candidate for village trustee Peggy Schatzle mentioned local Eagle Scouts as being potential volunteers to help TAB with future projects. She also brought up the tree on Locust Ridge and root heaving of sidewalk. Wondered if any plans were in works to remedy this? She suggested a police report had been filed, but TAB has had no notice of this. JZ reported that flexible permeable pavers over tree roots such as these would help solve the problem and diminish tripping hazard. GR wanted to know if there is a mechanism by which TAB would be notified of police reports filed in regard to trees. JZ felt the village clerk would be responsible for notifying TAB of such reports, and said she'd investigate.

Motion to adjourn meeting passed at 8:44 pm.