

10/25/2017
MEETING MINUTES
7:30pm Village Hall

Present: Charles Day (CD), Kory Riesterer (KR), Gordon Robertson (GR), Jennifer Zwarich (JZ).
Absent: Tony Bardes (TB)

Summary:

TAB convened at 7:27pm.

Approval of 8/30/17 meeting minutes

OLD BUSINESS

Miscellaneous updates

1. 230 Main project update: JZ reported that she will soon sign off on this project, noting that the sweet gum tree which was planted too high was not replanted but rather replaced with a seedless sweet gum variety. The 2 small oak trees and smaller sized serviceberries planted outside this stipulation of the job spec sheet were also okayed with funds credited back to the village to account for the difference. This extra money will be available from this project towards village trees.
2. 2 Kemble Ave. tree cutting application update: JZ reminded TAB that this application would be approved only if the applicant would cover the cost of widening the tree pits and adding structural soil to the location. She reported that the applicant has indeed agreed to this cost and has been in communication with Ian Kingsley as the arborist who will plant the replacement tree in spring. The village highway department has estimated cost for the sidewalk cutting to widen the tree pit and there was discussion of flexible pavers with base. Based on this information emotion was made to approve the application which past 4-0.
3. Main Street beautification phase 1 update: tree guards have been installed and mainly have other comments have been received from the public, with some interested in purchasing tree guards. GR: would like TAB to send out holiday thank you cards to donors of this project. All agreed this was a good idea. JZ also reported that one tree garden (directly in front of village hall) was still pending until a stump could be removed and pit widened (this delay was okayed by the sponsor). She reported that the mayor decided he would like to not do the grass pavers and replace this part of the project plans with brick pavers instead. GR mentioned that uniloc company often offer a steep discounts on end of year runs. It might be wise to look into this now for purchase and hold pavers until spring to install. GR also reminded TAB to keep in mind liability issues when ordering pavers which could become slippery.
4. Priority pruning work & stump grinding schedule: A RFP has gone now to local tree services for the tree removal and pruning work slated to be done this fall. JZ has sent the RFP to local tree service professionals and included TAB's application for tree service providers to be added to our approved list of contractors. The village highway department has agree to schedule grinding the stumps of any trees removed using a stump grinder on loan from the county. Mayor Merandy to coordinate that cooperative arrangement on behalf of the village.

5. Code enforcement issues relating to public tree law tabled to future meeting – TAB determined it was important to more closely look at public tree law ahead of time and speak with the code enforcement office prior to suggesting revisions.
6. Village tree walking tour: CD reported on minor changes he has made to the walking tour based on current health of listed trees. KR said she will order tree labels in February so that all is in place by Arbor Day next year.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Report of Chairperson meeting with Rec Commission: JZ went to the last rec meeting as a representative of TAB and discussed with their board how TAB works procedurally, explaining some of the confusion which had arisen about the willow tree removal in Mayor's park. She showed the rec members the TAB's online tree survey and they were happy to see the priority pruning list, noting that if extra money is in their budget they will put this towards tree work in the parks as needed. GR recommended TAB write a memo of understanding outlining this meeting and sending it to both the rec commission and the mayor so that both are aware of what was discussed. JZ told TAB she had been pleased that the TAB and Rec members seemed on the same page when it came to tree work and expects a great cooperative relationship.
2. Tree donation & planting McConville Park: a citizen group has raised funds to donate a new tree with a plaque as a memorial to local resident Jody Fredico. JZ worked with group on behalf of TAB to ensure planting site was in line with TAB's tree survey objectives and previously identified open planting sites in the park. Permission was obtained from Rec Comm for this planting and a small gathering to take place there.
3. Grant Application – renewed period: JZ will call to find out about the next grant cycle, reminding TAB that the village did not receive the grant last year due to a technical issue with the application upload in online DEC Grants Gateway. Despite numerous phone calls and letters on behalf of the Village to the grantor, the application was still not accepted. However, it is complete and can be re-submitted next cycle.
4. 9d Ball fields: GR brought up the idea of possibly finding locations to plant a few shade trees in this bare strip between 9d and the Haldane ball fields. He'll reach out to the Village for a site plan or survey of the site so TAB can discuss this winter.
5. Correspondence: 2 Kemble Ave. Brian McNichol letter and a new tree cutting application from resident at 190 Main for the corner of Main Street and 9d Oaks.
6. Public comment: None

Meeting adjourned: 8:08pm