

Tree Committee

October 4, 2017, Mason Library

I. Lisa Bozzuto called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM. Present were members Michael Wise, Nan Wile, Hilda Banks Shapiro. Absent: Michael Piretti, Beth Moser, J. B. Brodeur, Chris Wilshire. Also present: Ed Abrahams.

II. Minutes of the meeting of September 6, 2017 were approved, without objection.

III. Old business

A. Tree City

Bozzuto continues to work on this.

B. Black walnut experiment

Shapiro and Bozzuto are testing a theory to combat Japanese knotweed

C. Count of trees planted

Brodeur could not attend this meeting; this topic will be put over to the next meeting.

IV. New business

A. Goals

Bozzuto asked what the Committee's goals should be. Wile said we need media coverage that supports more tree planting. Arbor Day is usually the best outlet. Bozzuto said we need to do something worth putting into the paper. Shapiro suggested something dramatic, that is, on the stage. Bozzuto's priorities are a good maintenance program and more planting. She has e-mailed DPW (Van Deusen) about the need for a tree planting line item. The tree warden's principal issue now is dealing with the emerald ash borer, as well as the usual problem trees. The overall tree budget has risen from \$55K to \$60K. Other resources for maintenance could come from volunteers such as Greenagers or through grants.

B. Grants

Grants are time consuming; if we go that way, the grant-writing should be done by a subcommittee. Bozzuto will check with the members who are not present, to find out if anyone would be willing to do that.

V. Citizen speak time

None.

VI. General

A. The next meeting will be November 7, 2017, at 5:30.

The meeting adjourned without objection at 5:53 PM.

11/4/17

