

Shepherdstown Tree Commission Minutes
February 12, 2009
7:00 PM----Town Hall

Members Present: Wendy Maddox, L. Robertson, Mary Stanley, Frank Welch, Neal Martineau

Visitors: Jeremy Baker, Antietam Tree & Turf, Certified Arborist, Nancy Craun, Representing Streetscape.

1. Meeting called to order by Chairperson W. Maddox at 7:05 PM.

2. Approval of January 8, 2009 Tree Commission Minutes. **Motion made by N. Martineau, Second by L. Robertson. Motion carried unanimously.**

3. Tree Maintenance Request:

A) Streetscape.

Nancy C. gave a report regarding Streetscape. She stated there will be a meeting at 10 AM, 2/19/09 that will include Bldg. Systems, the landscape company, Pete Spaulding, John Brady and Streetscape members. The purpose is to go through the plant list and see what's been suggested as alternatives due to space limitations. For example, some planters may not take a 36" ball, they may have to be downsized. Also will be looking at the worthiness of the tree; height, can tolerate street pollution, etc. Nancy also noted that a railing will be put in by Shaharazades. The railing will not only be a safety issue but also prevent people from walking in the planter boxes. She stated that there has been good feedback from the business's in regard to help cleaning out trash from the planters. We discussed the use of Master Gardeners to help maintain beds; pruning, cleaning, etc. Nancy stated there was no provision to water the trees/planters. Frank mentioned he does not have the staff to water the trees. W. Maddox stated she has a truck with a watering tank and can do once a week as the Tree Commission has no funds to contract out.

Neil expressed a concern about using salt to clean sidewalks in the winter, could use sand as an alternative. Nancy stated business owners could use sand from buckets provided to them and possibly be fined when found using salt.

B) 102 North Duke Street.

Jeremy to observe the tree hanging over a roof and get back to us.

4. NewBusiness.

A) Grant Money

Mary stated nothing as yet, probably not until fiscal year; 7/09.

B) Tree Labels

Wendy provided information on aluminium tags that are impressionable. We could include botanical/common names and date planted. The price is \$125.00 for 500 tags.

Motion made by N. Martineau, Second by M. Stanley. Motion carried unanimously.

C) Planting Pamphlets

Wendy brought a catalog with a variety of available pamphlets in it. We will discuss this at the next meeting. Wendy asked for the Tree Commission to pay \$155.00 for her certification; ISA (Professional Membership) and Chapter dues. She will be going to an all day tree care symposium in Richmond. **Motion made**

by N. Martineau to pay for certification. Second by M. Stanley. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Old Business.

A) Tree Commission Proclamation rreading.

This was done Nov. 10, 2008.

B) Article in Chronicle

Article has been written about how many trees have been planted in 2008, not been printed yet.

C) Ordinance revision

Neil stated the first reading was 2/08, there has not been a second reading yet. He has yet to meet with Amy Leonard about title 9, to do this next week. The Planning Commission has the power to grant permission to take down a tree, the Tree Commission will act as an advisory board. Neil suggested we rethink the Tree Protection portion of the Ordinance. Salt should not be used around the base of trees, use sand instead.

We decided people can use loose lights but no nails. There will be no unauthorized pruning or breaking of limbs. No climbing of trees as that can injure. No ditches near trees and ok to put fences around trees for protection during consruction.

D) Need to fill out the Application for Recertification, Lori to do this.

Motion made by W. Maddox, Second by L. Robertson to adjourn at 8:30 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Robertson