

Shepherdstown Tree Commission Minutes
Thursday, July 13, 2013
Place: Town Hall

1. Members Present: Frank Welch, Lori Robertson, James Dillon, and Rebecca Drewry

Absent: none

Meeting was called to order by L. Robertson at 7:02 p.m.

2. – Approval of June 13, 2013 Minutes – Moved by F. Welch, Seconded by J. Dillon, to accept minutes, unanimously approved

Approval of July 13, 2013 Agenda: – Moved by F. Welch Second by J. Dillon. Unanimously approved.

3. – Visitors – None

4. Old Business:

a. 213 West New Street, David & Julia Springer – two maple trees brushing the roof of the house.

F. Welch spoke to this and stated that he has a quote from Bartlett of \$946.00 to trim the two trees. D. Springer had another quote for some trees on his property from a company in Maryland- Lowery (tree company). F. Welch called Lowery and they do not have a certified arborist on staff. They have a licensed tree expert. Our ordinance requires a certified WV arborist, and has made D. Springer aware of that.

J. Dillon – we don't need an arborist for all tree trimming.

F. Welch – we have to have a certified arborist.

****Keep as Old Business

Motion made by L. Robertson, Second by J. Dillon to approve the trimming of the trees at 213 W. New St for \$946.00. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Veteran's tree

James Dillon spoke to this and stated that a car hit the tree at Cullison Park. It's in really bad shape. We should replace it in the fall, it's mortally wounded. The tree was stripped of its bark on one side, and the base is badly damaged. Until then, we can stake it and determine a better location.

**leave on as Old Business.

5. New Business:

a. – Back Alley tree

F. Welch – this is behind Kazu, and he believes the dead tree is on private property owned by Mr. Sechrist. A letter will be mailed to Mr. Sechrist making him aware of the dead tree.

b. Magnolia Tree-Rumsey Park

L. Robertson stated the magnolia that was planted this spring in Rumsey Park is dead.

J. Dillon – better to replace the tree in the spring rather than the fall, it has a better chance of survival.

Motion made by L. Robertson, Second by F. Welch to replace the magnolia in Rumsey Park in the spring. Motion carried unanimously.

***Leave on as Old Business

c. 303E. High St – trimming

F. Welch and L. Robertson have been to see this tree and we have a quote of \$602.00 from Bartlett. **Keep as Old Business

Motion made by L. Robertson, Second by J. Dillon to approve the trimming of the tree at 303 E High St. for \$602.00. Motion carried unanimously.

d. Waste Water Tx Plant

F. Welch spoke to this and stated that there is need for two new trees at the WWTP to help screen the view. He deferred to J. Dillon to make a good choice.

J. Dillon – maybe Oak Leaf Holly

F. Welch – needs to be deer resistant, and about 6’ tall when planted, approx. \$100 each.

J. Dillon – ok, will look around. **Keep as Old Business

Motion made by F. Welch, Second by R. Drewry to approve the purchase of two new trees for the WWTP based on J. Dillon’s recommendation. Motion carried unanimously.

e. Water Plant tree

F. Welch stated that there is a large tree that is tearing up a tank at the water plant. He has a quote from Barlett of \$3264.00.

L. Robertson – that seems really high. **Keep as Old Business

Motion made by L. Robertson, Second by R. Drewry to approve to have the tree removed at the water plant pending a second quote that is done in a timely manner. Motion carried unanimously.

f. Tom Weener alley

F. Welch stated that there was a complaint about a dead tree in the alley behind Tom Weener’s house. He’s not sure if it’s on town property, but thinks it may be. Will check. **Keep as Old Business

Motion made by J. Dillon, Second by L. Robertson to approve to remove the dead tree if it is determined to be on town property. Motion carried unanimously.

- g. Train Station –
F. Welch stated that there is what he thinks is a dead cherry tree at the Train Station. L. Robertson will email H. Mills to see if they have a preference for a replacement tree. If it's in a wet area, a cherry tree is not suitable. We will ask for several suggestions then bring those suggestions back to the next Tree Comm. meeting, making sure none are invasive.
**Keep on as Old Business

 - h. FYI –
F. Welch mentioned that St. Agnes Church has asked for our input about a Norway Spruce that is rubbing up against their buildings, and not letting in enough light to burn off the mildew/mold. The tree is on their property, not the towns.
J. Dillon – we can recommend Bartlett and Antietam to give their expertise. Also, a letter should be written thanking them for asking us, and stating that usually we are not in favor of eliminating canopy trees, but we can certainly understand why they want it down.
6. Misc.
- a. F. Welch – how many trees are nurseries for us to pick up? We have only one to pay for, and have a Dogwood at Potomac farms for Washington St I believe.
J. Dillon – that's right. Should wait until the fall to plant the Dogwood, it can stay where it is for now. He will email Frank the info for the Star Magnolia for Viola Devonshire Park.
F. Welch – the town will remove the vine-covered tree on Washington where the Dogwood is going to go as a replacement.
***keep on as Old Business

 - b. Minutes – L. Robertson asked if someone else would take the minutes for the Tree Commission. R. Drewry stated that she would do it starting August.

7. Motion made by J. Dillon, Second by R. Drewry to adjourn at 7:41pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lori Robertson.