

Shepherdstown Tree Commission Minutes

Thursday, April 10th, 2014

7pm- Town Hall

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

Absent: None

Meeting was called to order by L. Robertson at 7:03 p.m.

2. **Approval of Minutes-** Moved by F. Welch, Seconded by R. Drewry to accept minutes. Minutes approved unanimously.

3. **Vistors:** Shawn Walker with Trees 101; Mayor Jim Auxor

4. **Old Business:**

- a. German Street trees- trimmed and look good.

5. **New Business:**

- a. Discussion of trees growing/falling across property lines- can cut them straight up if on their property however should inform neighbor first. Will the cutting of said growth/falling trees on neighbor's property line cause a decline in the tree?
- b. Thomas Shepherd Cemetery on New Street by Schrams- Tree needs to come out-4 ft in circumference. Suggested: Bids-Paul Simmons, Bartlett, & Antietam. Make sure to include in bid that they do not have to take tree down or grind the trunk- Motion to approve by L Robertson, Seconded by R. Drewry. Unanimously approved.
- c. Tree between 108 and 110 on New Street (Mayors house)-James will talk to Shane at Bartlett. **Keep on Old Business for next winter**
- d. Crepe Myrtle in front of Town Hall

e. Shane Walker spoke on behalf of the Ash Trees in Morgans Grove Park. There are 81-85 mature trees that need attention. To treat they are injected not sprayed. At most 20,000 dollars to help trees.

J.Dillon- Are there alternative ways such as replenishing the park with other trees instead of shelling out so much money.

S.Walker- The treatment is done in intervals of 2-3 years and in the long run will be more cost effective. Also facing the problem of the trauma of the dead trees to others as well as the safety with dead trees standing in a public park.

L. Robertson- Maybe save younger ones and remove some of the older ones and replace with new trees.

J. Dillon- Can the timber from the dead trees be harvested to save money? Will the insects that are destroying these trees return after they wipe out one species?

S.Walker- It is a virus- two treatments should be able to increase the intervals of injections 2-3 years to 4-5 years.

J. Dillon- cost of monitoring this?

Misc-How many out of towners can be on the Tree Committee? –Lori to ask Amy.

Motion made by L. Robertson, Seconded by R. Drewry to adjourn at 8:19 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Rebecca Drewry