

## Shepherdstown Tree Commission Minutes

Thursday, June 9, 2016

7:00 p.m. Town Hall

1. Members Present: L. Robertson, Bernadine Somers, and J. Dillon.

Absent: Frank Welch

Meeting called to order at 7:08 p.m. by L. Robertson.

2. Approval of Minutes: **L. Robertson – if there are no objections, the minutes are approved. No objections.**

3. Visitors: Eleanor Finn, Shawn Walker, and Kathryn Bragg-Stella

3a. Visitor's Comments - are logged in where applicable.

K. Stella – brought to the Tree commission's attention a dangerous Silver Maple tree that is leaning badly. The tree is 80-100' tall and needs immediate attention. The address is 205 E. High St. After a lengthy discussion, all agreed the tree should be removed to be replaced with a faster growing native tree, a Honey Locust to be planted in the fall.

**L. Robertson – if there are no objections, move to immediately get quotes from Antietam and Bartlett to remove the Silver Maple at 205 E. High St. No objections noted.**

E. Finn and S. Walker – The Shepherd Graveyard and the Entler - the Commission walked to the Shepherd Cemetery for the discussion of the trees that need attention.

1 - The Entler has two trees, Hybrid Elms that are brushing up against the building & windows. Concerned about window breakage.

**J. Dillon – if there are no objections, move to contact Antietam to thin and subordinate only the branches along the building/windows. No objections noted.**

2 – The cemetery has several trees in need of work. L. Robertson explained that once the graveyard is legally turned over to the Corporation, we would

do the work needed. A large Redbud leaning over from the Schramm's home needs to be limbed up as it's hanging over the wall. The Hackberry needs to be limbed up 8-10' to expose the monuments. The Beech needs to be limbed up 8-10' to allow mowing and to get off of the wall. The Red Maple needs to be limbed up and subordinate off of the wall, and limb up from the Craun's home. S. Walker suggested that the second Red Maple tree be cabled to remove from the Craun's home.

#### 4. Unfinished Business:

a. Dead tree by old Toy Store – this has been removed and needs to be replaced with a Hawthorne. L. Robertson reminded Jennifer to replace bricks where tree was removed.

b. Viola Devonshire – Tree - Pending

#### 5. New Business:

a. Tree Commission Budget – not available

b. Marty Baach (110 S. King St) tree – pending

c. Lost Dog – Tree Trim (Antietam) need permission from Potomac Edison to trim the tree first.

d. Tree Plantings on High St – Shepherd University –

e. Trees along fence at Water Plant – Pending

f. Memorial Tree – LPS – all agreed to find a spot in one of the parks and LPS will pay for the tree.

g. Japanese Silk Lilac – (106 W. New St) pruning needed – Antietam to do.

h. Replacement Tree ideas for Walnut/Wisteria removed and stump grinding for existing stump on New St – suggestions were American Elm (Jefferson Variety) and there's also room for a Sugar Maple (Green Mountain)

**L. Robertson – if there are no objections, move to have Antietam grind the stump, and replace the dead tree with an Am. Elm and Sugar Maple, and replace the long removed trees along New and Church Streets with a White Oak, Am Elm and an Okame Cherry. No objections noted.**

6. Maintenance/Misc. – None to date

**L. Robertson – if there are no objections, the meeting is adjourned at 8:03 pm. No objections noted. Minutes respectfully submitted by L. Robertson, Chair.**