

# TOWN of SHELBURNE TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## Minutes of March 8, 2017 Meeting

Members Present: Gail Henderson-King, David Hall, Tod Warner, Hope Johnson, Dawn Keogh Schmidt

1. **Call to Order** - Gail called meeting to order at 7:08 pm.
2. **Review Agenda** - No changes to agenda, meeting minutes approved.
3. **Consider approval of minutes from February 1, 2017** - David made a motion to approve the minutes and Tod seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved with Hope's edits.
4. **Citizen Participation (Opportunity for public comment on any Committee Business that is not included on this agenda)** - No citizen participation at this meeting.
5. **Village Safety Group** – Group to present their plans for the short and long term.  
Jane Zenaty Village Safety Group member, stated that they are concerned about pedestrian safety in town and are speeding issues on several roads in the village including Falls and Marsett Roads. She is the facilitator for the group who meet monthly and have approximately 40 residents on their mailing list. Their committee was given \$12K by the Town to study ways to address these issues. Trees planted along the road/sidewalk as a barrier is one way to help with slowing down traffic. David has concerns about the proper space needed for healthy trees. Local Motion is working with them. Gail expressed proper planting procedures will be needed. David discussed that trees need to be maintained and be included in the Town budget process. The Tree Advisory Committee would like to know more about the Village Safety Group efforts as they begin developing plans.
6. **Monthly Shelburne News Article** – Schedule for articles. Dawn and Hope gave an update on Shelburne News schedule and ideas for articles. VJ Comei currently does articles randomly, that are printed once per month. David reminds that Elise from the Vermont Urban and Community Forestry (UFC) program has material we can use from articles on their web site: we just need to give them credit. Discussed the three articles that must be 500 words maximum with photos encouraged. The first article will be about the committee/ history/ introduction for April. Second article will be about Arbor Day in May; and third article will highlight the sycamore tree. Gail will rough draft first article by March 17 and will circulate for comments/edits. There is lots of materials already available on the National Arbor Day web site. Also, part of being a “Tree City” town includes an Arbor Day proclamation and observance. Dawn will do research for the second

and third articles. Need to organize a team photo, which is tentatively set for April 1st with Treebeard and Lorax. Gail will bring a camera.

7. **Tree Advisory Committee Logo** – The Committee reviewed draft logos prepared by Dawn and decided on the Maple Tree one. Dawn will edit/finalize the logo and bring to the next meeting.
8. **Grant Opportunities** – Update on UCF grants, other opportunities and application deadlines. Hope gave an update on grant opportunities. There is one organization that has lots of grant opportunities. Once the Committee/Town joins this organization, then they share information about grant opportunities. It is \$125.00 to be a member. There are 120 or so other organizations/towns/etc that belong to this organization including the Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program. The benefits include an invite to a national conference. Hope will contact Elise about this organization to find out more about it.

The Vermont UCF grant applications are now available. Tod really likes the marketing opportunities of vertical mulching and feels that putting in a grant application for this work on the Parade Ground will bring great educational applications and lean the public towards the much-needed aspect of maintenance of trees. It was agreed to apply for this grant. The deadline for the grant application is April 14<sup>th</sup>. Hope and Gail will work on the grant application.

9. **Tree City USA, Tree Inventory Update, and Other Thoughts** – Follow up to Elise Schadler's discussion last month. The Vermont UCF Program is offering one free registration to Arbor Day event for communities. David expressed interest in attending and will also contact Joe Colangelo to have someone from Town Highway Department to attend.
10. **Emerald Ash Borer Preparedness Plan** – Discussion on what the Town of Williston and Middlebury have done for their Tree Preparedness Plan. Joe Colangelo is now aware of the emerald borer impending doom and asked Gail if the Committee was working on this. Town of Williston has a preparedness plan on web site, which is good. The Town of Charlotte is moving on this as well. David will start coordination with Charlotte Tree Warden. The Committee agreed to focus on this in the fall/winter.
11. **Other Business**
  - The Committee's meeting day moves back to the second Wednesday of the month.
  - The Town can get free trees from Kyle Albee at the Horticultural Farm for the Dog Park. We may be able to get some as well, but will need to have a place shovel ready.
  - The Dog park is in a wet area that challenges trees in addition to too much dog urine and compaction problems from use.

- Ann mentioned the two large tree being impacted by construction vehicles on Posey property and concerned about new construction around their root system. David suggested that the Town should be including tree protection standards in all town project contracts. Gail will pull together tree protection standards.

12. **Adjourn** - Meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM

Respectfully submitted by,

Tod Warner  
Shelburne Tree Advisory Tree Committee

DRAFT