

TOWN of SHELBURNE TREE COMMITTEE
Minutes of Tuesday, September 6, 2022

Members in attendance: David Hall, Susan Dunning, Kelly Moreton, Gail Henderson-King. Ann Milovsoroff joined at 8 pm.

Absent: Tod Warner

1. **Call to Order.** Meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM.
2. **Consider approval of minutes from July 5, 2022.** Postponed until next meeting due to an absence of a quorum of attending members. Members agreed on advertising for an additional member to fill the open spot on the Tree Committee.
3. **Citizen Participation.** (Opportunity for public comment on any Committee Business that is not included on this agenda) – None.
4. **Site Visit: Davis Park.** Cancelled due to light rain. Instead, members agreed to visit the site independently prior to the next meeting. Gail will alert members when she visits the area so that members can join her if they choose.
5. **Annual Election of Officers.** Postponed so that current officers can all be present.
6. **Ash Tree Work / 2022 Caring for the Canopy Tree Planting Updates. Ash Tree Work.** BJs completed the second round of Ash tree removal work. Susan offered to update the Ash Tree Inventory in ArcGIS and on the Town website. Dave offered to provide her with the final list of roads/ROW completed in FY 2020-2021 and FY 2021-2022. Members reiterated that based on scientific knowledge of EAB, it is assumed that some trees in Shelburne have already been infected with EAB. This is based on the proximity of EAB identified in Williston and surrounding areas, and the known flight patterns of EAB. Members noted that some Ash trees along Harbor Road do not appear healthy, although EAB has not been identified there as of this writing. Members preliminarily agreed that the next Ash Tree work should be along Bay Road given the high concentration of Ash.

Planting Updates: Members noted that the newly interplanted Oak Trees at Davis Park are growing into the Ash trees which needs addressing. The 2 Red Oaks and River Birch at Hullcrest Park and the 2 Hackberry trees at Davis Park are thriving. The Sycamore at Davis Park dropped its leaves (likely due to draught) but is now leafing out again. Gail noted that Horsford's did not include "3 years of watering" in the final signed contract for the 2022 *Caring for the Canopy* Grant, despite it being included in the bid RFP (an oversight). The Town of Shelburne has agreed to provide watering for these 6 trees. Members agreed that the cost and effort of watering should be considered in future bids. David updated the Committee

that the bark peeling on the newly planted Sycamore at Shelburne Beach was a common springtime occurrence and was most likely not vandalism. Beach staff are keeping an eye on the trees.

7. **Caring for Canopy Grants.** Members discussed VT UCF's two grants that are now available: 1) *2023 Communities Caring for Canopy* and 2) *2023 Growing Urban Forests in the Face of EAB*. Both applications are due on December 30, 2022. Members discussed the following ideas: 1) Interplanting +/- removal of the 4-5 Ash trees south of the Municipal Building. 2) Ash removal/thinning of Ash trees and possibly replanting in the circle area of the Municipal parking lot. 3) Coordination with SCS for interplanting and Ash removal in the SCS parking lot on School Street. Kelly offered to reach out to Lucy at SCS. Members will visit these sites prior to the next meeting.
8. **FY 2023 Budget Planning.** Postponed.
9. **Public Education and Outreach / Fundraising.** Shelburne News published the "Caring for the Canopy" article on 8/11/2022.
10. **Tree Warden Report.** Dave reported that Teachers Tree Service inoculated the large Ash tree located on the west side of Falls Road (across from Shelburne Plaza) as a donation. Future planned inoculations are not known. Members agreed that the Town should not take over this responsibility as the tree is in questionable health and near power lines. The 2 purple EAB traps on Harbor Road did not identify any EAB. David has spoken with Natural Resources regarding a request by a private landowner on Sycamore Street to cut ash in a Natural Area. David feels that the trees do not pose a danger to person or structure and will notify the landowner.
11. **Other Business.** Gail offered to check with Peter Frankenburg on the amount of money in the budget for Ash tree removal in Fiscal Year 2022-2023.
12. **July/August 2022 Accomplishment.** Several landowners expressed gratitude for the cut wood from the 2nd round of Ash removal. Completion of Tree planting for the "*2022 Caring for the Canopy*" Grant (2 Red Oak and 1 River Birch in Hullcrest Park and 2 Hackberry and 1 Sycamore in Davis Park). Article published in Shelburne News on 8/11/2022 regarding the "*Caring for the Canopy*" Grant and planting. The State Entomologist visited Shelburne on June 2022 and August 2022.

13. The Committee was adjourned at 8:48pm.

Minutes were respectfully submitted by Susan Dunning.

Approved by Shelburne Tree Committee on _____

DRAFT