

TREE ADVISORY BOARD
VILLAGE OF COLD SPRING

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MEMBERS: TONY BARDES; CHARLES DAY; KORY RIESTERER; GORDON ROBERTSON; JENNIFER ZWARICH

2/24/2016
MEETING MINUTES
8:00pm Village Hall

Present: Tony Bardes, Charles Day, Kory Riesterer, Gordon Robertson, Jennifer Zwarich.

Summary:

Meeting opened at 8:08 pm.

11/18/2015 and 12/16/2015 and 1/06/16 minutes all approved 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

J. Zwarich moved prioritizing Tree Inventory Survey work to next meeting 3/30/2016.

C. Day and J. Zwarich reported briefly on successful winter pruning of young trees in January. TAB will keep on top of these to save funds in future. G. Robertson asked if these TAB labor hours were also being kept track of. J. Zwarich reported yes, labor hours to be used for grant application purposes in future.

Discussion re: ID tagging of trees followed. G. Robertson will order and donate tags and look into hand stamping machine for future cost saving. Unique tree ID numbers from Tree Inventory Survey will be used to tag trees.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Barney Molloy stopped by briefly to submit a query about parking clearances for the tree removals scheduled in morning.

OLD BUSINESS resumed

J. Zwarich reported on Main St. sidewalk project tree removals, reviewing again reasons why trees needed to come down now, some at village expenses due to DOT Bat protection. 3 of the 5 trees slated for take down by Jerry Allen. Two will be removed by Central Hudson. Will all be replaced during sidewalk project.

J. Zwarich also reported on two pending tree removal applications for High and Parrot Streets. G. Robertson raised issue of whether tree replacement cost be considered a 'fee' or 'suggested donation' for insurance filing and/or tax deduction purposes and TAB agreed it is considered a fee. T. Bardes reminded all that replacement values of trees in future be calculated based on DBH of tree being removed. It was agreed this would eventually become policy pending amendment if the ordinance and approval by VBOT, tbd at later date.

J. Zwarich updated TAB regarding status of Palmer/Lane application, noting John Lane officially e-mailed to request their application be put on hold. The application has yet to go before VBOT for approval and is now paused until further notice. T. Bardes asked that such correspondence be officially entered into

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minutes [see attached]. TAB also discussed at next meeting reviewing Ithaca's tree policy regarding solar panels so that TAB might also draft a policy regarding future such applications.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Brief visit by Kathleen Foley, HDRB member, to check in about row of Hemlocks and Black Walnut bordering parcel at 207 Main. Zwarich responded that she'd also received similar inquiries from surrounding residents and was in process of securing current site survey and informally contacting prospective property owner to discuss how the building project might impact village trees.

OLD BUSINESS resumed

Thanks went out to G. Robertson for instruction sheet for tree professionals wishing to be on TAB's list. Discussion regarding cost to publicly notice this is paper of record – does it come out of general village funds or tree funds? J. Zwarich will confirm with village clerk. Instruction Sheet to be posted also on TAB website and fb page.

TAB discussion of member qualifications, skills, interests and project ideas ensued. Members submitted written lists to be used internally by TAB and rich brainstorming discussion of potential partnerships, collaborations, fundraising efforts and beautification ideas ensued. The following 6 "start now" projects resulted from discussion:

1. TAB completes TMP
2. J. Zwarich - prioritizes work based on Tree Inventory Survey, main st tree pits, fundraising
3. C. Day – walking tour brochure (10 trees) in time for Arbor Day?
4. K. Riesterer – tree name labels (for same 10 brochure trees)
5. G. Robertson – unique tree ID tags to match Inventory ID
6. T. Bardes – movable containers for Main St. beautification – business sponsored and maintained!
Friendly competition for best looking planter....?

NEW BUSINESS

J. Zwarich shared letter she submitted to VBOT regarding 2017 budget and her concerns regarding line item for tree maintenance. TAB also discussed importance of properly naming/defining the rollover budget line where future fundraising efforts will go and the importance of ensuring these donations towards village trees are not appropriated elsewhere. TAB agreed to discuss more in-depth at next scheduled meeting.

Motion to adjourn meeting passed at 10:16 pm.