

# Shepherdstown Tree Commission Draft Minutes

Thursday, May 9, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Rumsey Park (weather permitting) or Town Hall

- **Members Present:** Lori Robertson – Chair, Jenny Haynes, James Dillon via phone, and Charlotte Baker-Shenk.
  
  - **Absent:** None
  
  - \* **Visitors:** Laura Carter and Terry Hadley
1. **Call to Order:** L. Robertson called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.
  
  2. **Approval of April 18, 2024 Draft Minutes.**  
**J. Haynes – move to approve April 18, 2024 Draft Tree Commission minutes with changes. Second by C. Baker-Shenk. No objections noted.**
  
  3. **Public Comment:** None
  
  4. **Visitor's comments:**

## 5. Unfinished Business:

- a. Verbiage for Comprehensive Plan –input from Commission. Pending.
- b. Monarch Way Station – UPDATE - we needed more plants for the beds and James and Lori will check out availability at various nurseries.. James suggested maybe doing something with the boulders there to incorporate them in to a garden design. Lori suggested we have our next meeting at Rumsey to check it out.
- c. Keep as Pending - Suggestion to have Bartlett give us a quote to clear the bowl in Rumsey Park with a brush-cutter. Then plant a large White oak (red foliage in the fall) or a Chinkopin Oak and keep the bowl clear. Put a large circle around the tree for water to pool to keep it moist. *Another suggestion is to have a piece of ironworks as a focal point with drought resistant plants surrounding it.*
- d. Sage Place – Perennial Wood Sedge for around the trees this fall-how many per tree. There are 9 trees to maintain - we can have Bartlett add these trees to their list of trees to maintain. *James to send Frank a link to purchase 100 of Wood Sedge for 3 tree wells. Terry is the contact. UPDATE*

James will assess how much dirt to be out in the wells. Hw also mentioned a great volunteer effort from the residents. He also suggested 27 bags of shredded mulch for Sage Place. Will mentioned he could get it bulk at a cheaper rate - possibly 3 cu. Yards. James stated the Sedge would run about \$125 pie well with 32-50 plants per flat per well. We should become a customer to North Creek or another wholesale center Keep on agenda.
- f. Tree Inventory – we need to send the new trees to Bartlett to be added to our tree inventory. *It was suggested if we could have a computer here to log in trees for the tree inventory on the projector. Need to ask Amy.*  
UPDATE

g. Tree Lilac in front of Town Hall – put a plaque “In Honor of Pete Spaulding” Lori to reach out on FB to chat with those who had worked with Pete. We need to go ahead and order it. Pending

h. Lost Dog tree stump - UPDATE - James will give Lori 3 choices for Garth and Brad. An Okame Cherry would be perfect. Brad has suggested we not replant to allow more foot traffic for the Lost Dog, but also stated that Garth would still like a tree. The quote from Viking is \$700 to grind the LD stump and the popcorn store stump. Viking can only go to depth of 17” and Erik has recommended to let fill the holes with dirt and cover with mulch. Then, allow the LD hole to sit for at least a year to rot as a tree cannot be planted in 17”.

i. *Sue Kemnitzer - tags 67, 68, 69 & 70 - Back Alley behind her house - English Ivy and poison ivy drowning on them. Lori has started this process. UPDATE Reached out to Bartlett to trim vines. UPDATE*

j. Ashleigh Sanders - 202 E. German St. - wants poison ivy removed from ground and trim trimmed - vines cut off. - Lori to trim the vines off of the tree itself, Bartlett to trim the tree. Some have been cut. UPDATE

k. Price - 105 S. King St. - 2 trees - need to be trimmed and one possible staked - UPDATE - *Bartlett.*

l. Popcorn store - replace the tree that was taken down due to damage - keep on agenda -UPDATE - the tree was rotten so there is a water drainage issue. The decision is to not replant but to brick it up. To have stump ground first. UPDATE

m. Request - 103 W. New St. - Justin Roedersheimer & Moria Quispe - 1-2 trees between their sidewalk and the street. Wants to discuss possibilities. *James to take a look at the site. - Suggested a Paperbark Maple, Ann Magnolia, or Bald Cypress. There are no wires there. Lori to email them. UPDATE*

n. Request - James Butcher - 216 W. German St - front sidewalk - tree roots have spread with sidewalk and curb buckling and uneven - tripping hazard.

(Daughter is Janice Huckaby). *Both James and Lori to look. James suggested that the sidewalk could be rolled over the roots, or remove some of the bricks and mulch over.* Have Billy take a look.

n. Charlotte Baker-Shenk was approved by council.

o. 213 W. German St - Jack and Carol Gelman - options. UPDATE

p. **( it was suggested we look for a grant for a water truck to water the plants/trees in various areas of town) Keep on agenda.**

q. Comprehensive Plan 2024 report - UPDATE

#### **6. New Business:**

**7. Maintenance/Misc.** - Spring - feeding and pest management- 2024

\* Next meeting June 13, 2024 - 6pm

#### **8. Adjournment:**

**J. Haynes – move to adjourn at 6:55 p.m. Second by J. Dillon. No objections noted.**

**Minutes respectfully submitted by L. Robertson**