

1/23/2019  
MEETING MINUTES  
7:30pm Village Hall

Present: Kory Riesterer (KR), Jennifer Zwarich (JZ), Tony Bardes (TB), Charles Day (CD)

Summary:

TAB convened at 7:35pm.

11/14/18 meeting minutes approved, CD abstained.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. DEC Grant punch list and report of the chairperson on progress since last meeting
  - a) Press release in both papers successful – positive responses received from public. Future public outreach planned as grant unfolds.
  - b) next steps include RFP for tree work, comparison of brick costs for tree pit pavers, and meetings with various village officials
    - JZ has already met with the mayor, Bugsy from HWY dept, and village clerk; contract is not yet signed but once mayor signs it then state will officially execute the contract. However, TAB can begin work even before this, submitting any costs dated from 12/15/2018. Grant is for a 2 year contract period; TAB hopes to have work done within 1 year. Minor changes in contract were made re: village "matching" portion of grant.
    - JZ also reported that since TAB officially became a village board we have brought in almost \$15K in cash donations to the village, not including donations received prior to becoming an official board (during the tree management planning process)!!
2. Miscellaneous updates
  - a) Fall tree pruning project update: bulk of work completed in November by Jerry Allen though some outstanding work remains with stump grinding and at least one directional prune on a Main St. tree. Philipstown Tree Service has not yet billed village because job is not yet complete. JZ to check in regarding completion.
  - b) Beautification updates
    - i) Discussion: planning for April tree pit tutorial – waiting on CS Chamber of Commerce to confirm and discuss details of "contest" they wish to organize. JZ to reach out to Eliza Starbuck to coordinate.
    - ii) No new tree pit sponsorships
    - iii) Misc. updates: winter pruning by JZ and CD planned end of Feb/Early March. TB also asked about update on "opiod memorial" row of trees. Mary Saari of garden club along with other garden club members considering collaborating but unlikely. JZ reported discussion with Danielle McCarthy of the Communities that Care coalition and TB reported Nancy Montgomery on board with the idea; discussion followed about location (beside Haldane drainage pit?) and collaboration with area organizations. JZ will connect TB to head of CTC, Danielle Pack McCarthy, and KR will reach out to Haldane's new facilities director, Nabil Botros.

3. FY 2019/20 Budget Discussion
  - a) 2018/19 outstanding funds - will budget tree line drop again or remain same. TAB should request same budget line for ongoing needs; to be discussed further at next Feb TAB meeting...
  - b) Tree Service Procurement Policy clause: JZ passed around two draft proposals for TAB to review: one specific to current grant project and one more general for future pruning proposals. Discussion ensued. TB recommended including ANSI pruning class standards as guideline on RFPs. Also discussed that certified arborist on staff will need to supervise work done under DEC grant umbrella.
4. Ideas for Future Projects: Opioid memorial row of trees current future project under consideration as well as April "Tree Pit Planting" tutorial and summer 2019 tree pit garden contest.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

5. Philipstown Garden Club report on discussion and interest: JZ reported that PGC was not interested in donating or maintaining a village tree pit. Outreach to other garden clubs (Highlands) has also stalled.
6. Correspondence: NONE
7. Public comment: NONE
8. NOTE: All village Xmas trees this year have been chipped for free by village and mulch will be donated to TAB! Next meeting 2/27 7:30pm.

Meeting adjourned 8:35pm.