

## TOWN of SHELBURNE TREE COMMITTEE

Minutes of March 10, 2021 Meeting

Members In Attendance: Gail Henderson-King, David Hall, Susan Dunning, Ann Milovsoroff, Todd Warner, Kelly Moreton, Thea Platt

Guests: Conservation Commission members, Dean Pearce

1. **Call to Order** – Meeting called to order at 6:49 p.m.
2. **Emerald Ash Borer: What is means for Ash Trees on Town Owned Lands – Discussion with the Natural Resources and Conservation Commission and the Cemetery Commission on how best to help the Town and other committees address EAB and Ash trees on public lands in Shelburne. Key discussion points:**
  - What the Tree Committee had learned about EAB and how it effects Ash trees;
  - What Shelburne’s EAB Management Plan recommends for certain Town owned lands; and
  - What are the committees’ thoughts on how Shelburne could address Ash trees that are on Town owned lands not addressed in the EAB Management Plan.

Due to some technical issues with Zoom our 6:30 PM start time was delayed. Members of the Natural Resource and Conservation Commission (NRCC) were present, Cemetery Commission was not present. Gail Henderson-King offered a quick recap of our Ash Tree Management Plan progress to date. It was noted that we did not include the Town’s Natural Areas in our initial Ash tree inventory. There are certainly some Ash in those areas that will be impacted by Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). We asked the NRCC if they have a map of the Town’s natural areas and if they can identify the property owners that border these lands. Dean Pearce will put this information together and forward to the Tree Committee. It was suggested that the NRCC could make use of our Inventory system to identify the Ash on these natural areas. It would be good to at least inventory on the perimeters in these areas. Several areas were mentioned such as Boulder Hill, Laplatte, and near the School. The NRCC Committee had to leave for their own meeting at 7:00 p.m.

3. **Consider approval of minutes from February 10, 2021** – Motion to approve the minutes as presented by Dave, seconded by Kelly. Minutes unanimously approved.
4. **Citizen Participation (Opportunity for public comment on any Committee Business that is not included on this agenda)** – None.

5. **Memorial Tree application – Discussion on updated 2021 Memorial Tree application and implementation** – Vaughn Collins joined for a few minutes as the lead member of the bicycle group that wants to purchase a memorial tree. We reviewed some history of the program, the four locations of the current memorial trees in Shelburne, and the proposed application for a Redbud tree to be located on the Parade Ground. The Tree Committee approved the location and species for the proposed memorial tree. Vaughn was impressed and praised the Shelburne memorial tree program.
6. **Shade Tree Preservation Plan: Continue review and discuss latest draft plan and prepare a list of what are the Committee’s goals for the next 5 years** – Members reviewed Elise Schadler’s updated document and discussed the various questions she had. We discussed our long term goals and reviewed accomplishments to date including updates on our web page. It was also noted that our Town Tree walk is now mobile friendly.
7. **Public Education and Outreach / Fundraising** – There was discussion of materials prepared by Kelly for March and April. Kelly already has several months prepared in advance. Her current strategy is to submit article to Shelburne News first, and then to Front Porch Forum after the press hits the streets. Gail recommended that we think about Arbor Day celebration ideas and discuss next month.
8. **Tree Warden Position** – The Committee discussed on tree warden compensation research and findings and thoughts on the Shelburne Tree Warden position. Dave answered questions about his role as tree warden and then excused himself from the meeting. Members thanked Kelly for her research into compensation of Tree Wardens in surrounding Vermont towns. Apparently, Tree Wardens could use more love. It was noted that this position has received more attention due to EAB and stipends may be forthcoming in several communities.
9. **Other Business** – None.
10. **February 2021 Accomplishments** – The Committee discussed accomplishments/work we did in February, which included the Tree City Application submitted, web page updated, and 2021 Public Outreach Campaign started.
11. **Adjourn** – Meeting Adjourned 8:40 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by Tod Warner, Secretary.

Approved by Shelburne Tree Committee on April 14, 2021