

Town of Shelburne Tree Committee
Minutes of June 7, 2022

In Attendance: Gail Henderson-King, David Hall, Kelly Moreton, Tod Warner, Ann Milovsoroff

1. **Call to Order** – Due to technical difficulties with Zoom, meeting called to order at 7:25 PM.
2. **Consider approval of minutes from May 3, 2022** – Minutes approved unanimously.
3. **Citizen Participation (Opportunity for public comment on any Committee Business that is not included on this agenda)** – Brief discussion of Mulberry trees offered in Shelburne FPF and whether the Tree Committee might want to have some for planting. It was noted that they can be messy with the fruit falling and are considered invasive for this area. It was also noted that these may have already been given away. We will not pursue getting any of these.
4. **Annual Election of Officers** – Due to the absence of some members, we will move this topic to next meeting.
5. **Ash Tree Work / Caring for Canopy Tree Planting Updates** – All of the bids for second round of Ash tree removal came in higher than our budget of \$9,000. We reached out to the two best offers and asked to re submit with what they could do within the budget number and have selected the best return offer from DJ's Tree Service. This project still needs to be scheduled to coordinate with some other town work the same company will be doing soon. A discussion ensued about the removed ash wood. Kelly mentioned that she has a conversation with a local craftsman at the Farmers Market who uses Ash for woodworking and may be able to make use of some of the removed ash. It was recommended that we make the ash wood available to residents who have interest. Town residents will need to be able to pick up the wood without adding extra work for the tree removal company. It was also mentioned that the Abenaki may want Ash but Dave indicated that the trees being removed are not Black Ash that is used by the Abenaki. Kelly will make public announcement in FPF and other news outlets.

The Caring for Canopy bids came back with a much higher cost than anticipated, and none included the three year guarantee requested. Only one reply came back with the guarantee – Horsford's / Distinctive Landscaping – and Gail and Dave were able to negotiate an agreement with them much closer to our budget of \$6K.

6. **Pests Discussion** – Discussion of the results from a Shelburne Ash tree that had many of the symptoms of EAB. A state Prevention Forester inspected this suspect and felt that all of the

visible symptoms were due to other stresses and not EAB. It was suggested and agreed that it would be a good idea for the Committee to retag some of the more visible Ash trees in town for renewed public awareness of the EAB issue. The Spotted Lantern Fly is approaching us in VT. This invasive originated in PA and has a special fondness for hard nut fruit trees like Cherry, Crabapple and Apple. Dave also mentioned that they drop a serious amount of very sticky excrement to add to the problem. Spongy Moth, which is having a banner year, was also discussed. Kelly plans to have an article in the Shelburne News soon talking about invasive pests to watch for.

7. **Arbor Day 2022 Celebration Recap** - Due to time constraints, these topics were moved to next meeting.
8. **Tree Planting Selection** - Due to time constraints, these topics were moved to next meeting.
9. **Public Education and Outreach/Fundraising** – Due to time constraints, these topics were moved to next meeting.
10. **Tree Warden Report** – Dave reported on his walkthrough with the new Director of the Farmers’ Market. He noted that people will often drive/park their cars on grass but usually will not take their vehicles on mulch. The mulch needs to be re-established around the sensitive areas to protect the trees impacted by traffic at the Farmers Market. Dave will endeavor to organize this project.
11. **Other Business – Other business or ideas for the committee** – No other business.
12. **May 2022 Accomplishments** – Planted 10 trees in Bay Park for Arbor Day (5 Hackberry, 5 Swamp White Oak), EAB exhibit at Town Library. Several articles published in Shelburne News, Shelburne White Cedar Trees at Library recognized in the Vermont Big Tree program and database, and Town Web page updates.
13. **Adjourn** – Meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM.

Minutes were respectively submitted by Tod Warner.

Approved by Shelburne Tree Committee on July 5, 2022