

TOWN of SHELBURNE TREE COMMITTEE
Minutes of October 13, 2021 meeting

Members in Attendance: Gail Henderson-King, David Hall, Susan Dunning, Kelly Moreton, Tod Warner, Ann Milovsoroff

1. **Call to Order** – Meeting called to order at 7:08 pm. Due to a technical error, our public meeting announcement was not made public with enough lead time so no decisions can or will be made at this meeting.
2. **Consider approval of minutes from September 8, 2021** – Meeting minutes were reviewed, and no changes suggested. These will be moved to the November meeting agenda for approval.
3. **Citizen Participation (Opportunity for public comment on any Committee Business that is not included on this agenda)** - None
4. **Tree Work Bid** – Dave shared that we received 3 bids for the Burr Oak planting and Teachers won the contract with the best and least expensive proposal. The Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Arbor Day grant will cover more than 2/3 of the cost and the remaining will come from the Tree Conservation budget line item. Members discussed areas of the town that would be the most important to focus on preemptive Ash tree removal. Also discussed various options and responsibilities for the use and/or disposal of potentially infected Ash lumber. It was noted that the winter months are good times to do this type of work for various reasons. Our most recent Memorial Tree, a Serviceberry to be located at the Town Beach has been secured from Cobble Creek Nursery in Bristol. Susan will coordinate the Marker placement and asked for a couple of weeks lead time to arrange for the preparation of the Marker.
5. **Begin Discussion of Budget for FY 2023 (Begins July 1, 2022) 8:15 pm** – Members discussed strategy for preparing this year’s budget. There will be a 5 minute high level budget update at the Select Board meeting before the committee’s next meeting. We reviewed the previous year budget and agreed that these budget issues had been discussed in previous meetings and nothing new would need to be decided on. Gail will present at next Board Meeting.
6. **Work Plan for FY 2022 (Begins July 1, 2021)** – This item was moved to next month’s meeting.

7. **Shade Tree Preservation Plan** – Gail started reviewing Elise Schadler’s comments and questions on the most recent draft of the plan. Members discussed several topics including the definition of Shade Tree, Natural Areas and jurisdiction, color coding of the town tree map and others. This discussion will continue at next month’s meeting.
8. **Public Education and Outreach / Fundraising** - Kelly has articles ready to go and currently waiting for the Committees’ decision on when/where to begin pre-emptive cutting. No such decisions tonight. She also brought up the need for the Tree Committee to have a Zoom Meeting option for possible future COVID gathering restrictions as our meeting time is the same as other groups. Members felt this would be a good idea. Kelly also suggested that we search for some specimen Black Ash to be considered for inoculation as the Black Ash is sacred to the Abenaki people in VT. Members agreed this would be a good idea.
9. **Tree Warden Report** – Dave mentioned that several items he had planned to include here had already been discussed. He did say that he was talking with a UCF member who told him that our precious old Cedar trees at the Library location are being considered for Champion Tree Designation by their organization. That would be totally COOL! Branch Out Burlington may have some trees at low cost or free based on their end of year inventory available to consider for next year Spring planting season.
10. **Other Business** – The committee discussed moving the monthly meetings to another night other than Wednesday. It was discussed and the first Tuesday of the month works for all. Gail will check to see if we can get a Zoom link for this night as well as find out if the Library community room is available.
11. **September 2021 Accomplishments** Bid for Planting 2 Burr Oaks was secured.
12. **Adjourn** – Meeting adjourned at 8:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Tod Warner, Secretary.

Approved by Shelburne Tree Committee on November 2, 2021