

2020 FORESTRY AND BEAUTIFICATION

MINUTES FOR MARCH 11, 2020

Georgette Cole, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:37PM.

Attendees: Georgette Cole (Chair), Audrey Maskery (Council Liaison), Cynthia Werts (Recording Secretary), Jay Everhart, Deb Mehlferber, and Joan Mahaffey.

Jay made a motion, seconded by Deb, to approve the agenda as amended (the election of Committee Chair and Recording Secretary was added to the items for discussion). The motion was approved by consensus.

The draft minutes from the November 2019 meeting were reviewed. Jay made a motion, seconded by Georgette, to approve the minutes as written – motion passed 6-0.

Review of F&B Guidelines: Committee members reviewed Version 2.2 of the *Guidelines of Forestry and Beautification Committee* as discussed at the November 2019 meeting. Joan made a motion, seconded by Audrey, to approve and adopt the guidelines as written - the motion passed 6-0.

April Bulletin: Jay has volunteered to continue to prepare F&B articles on “Trees in the Grove” in the monthly Town Bulletin - a well-written article on Witch Hazel was published in the March bulletin. Committee members made suggestions on material for the April bulletin and Jay agreed to do an informative article on flowering Star Magnolias - several species are already beginning to bloom in Town, which will enable residents to better identify this tree.

F&B Committee Elections: Cynthia made a motion, seconded by Audrey, to re-elect Georgette Cole as Chair – all voted in favor of the motion. Jay made a second motion, seconded by Georgette, to re-elect Cynthia Werts as Recording Secretary – all voted in favor of the motion as well.

Review of fall tree installation: Georgette prepared a list, along with a map of locations, of the nine trees that were planted in the fall of 2019. The total amount spent on 2019 fall plantings was \$3,650.00.

Spring Tree Planting Sites: Georgette prepared a list, along with a map of site locations, of proposed trees for 2020 spring planting for the Committee to review. The list includes 12 large trees to be planted in various locations throughout Town, along with a variety of 9 smaller flowering species (i.e. Cherokee Brave, Cherokee Princess, Kousa tree, deciduous azalea, and a bush replacement). Jay made a suggestion to consider the Mexican flowering Dogwood, as well.

A group trip to Stadler Nursery was proposed so that committee members can go and take stock of Stadler's current tree inventory. Audrey will also contact Ace Tree Service and get back with the Committee on a proposed date to visit this site.

General Updates:

WSSC plans: It was noted that WSSC is still on schedule to start work on Grove Avenue sometime in April 2020. They will contact our Town Maintenance Supervisor once an actual date is confirmed for this project to begin.

GPS Project: Jay noted that the several iPhone apps available for GPS tracking are inconsistent. There is an android app available, however, it requires a significant amount of memory. Deb suggested the possibility of utilizing a GPS transmitter. IPC, the contractor working in the East Woods, uses this device. Joan volunteered to check with them to see how this method works and report back to the Committee.

Benches: Five (5) new benches have recently been installed around Town. Jay expressed concern on the type of wood provided with the benches, and if it has been preserved for protection from outdoor elements. Audrey will check with Steve Werts (the benches were installed by Town Maintenance) and report back to the Committee.

Other Business: Joan advised that IPC reported a large patch of Celandine – an invasive non-native species – along Pine Avenue. Jay reported that there are other areas along Grove Avenue where this flower exists.

Joan also advised that the Mid-Atlantic Tree Association provides a course on tree risk assessment. This trade association provides educational events and courses for arborists, urban foresters, and others involved in the caring of trees. A course was just recently held at Booher Park in Gaithersburg, MD. It was suggested that this might be of interest to the F&B Committee.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Minutes submitted by:

Cynthia Werts

