

Tree Committee

June 13, 2018, Mason Library

I. Lisa Bozzuto called the meeting to order at 5:34 PM. Present were members Hilda Banks Shapiro, Michael Piretti, J. B. Brodeur, Michael Wise. Absent: Beth Moser, Chris Wilshire, Nan Wile. Also present: Chris Rembold, Ed Abrahams, Holly Hamer.

II. Minutes of the meeting of May 2, 2018 were approved, without objection.

III. New business

A. Downtown side streets planting proposal

Rembold explained the proposal. No trees will come out. In particular, the elm on the corner of Church and School streets will get root protection. On School street, the crabs on the bank will remain. A Sargent cherry will be added along Bridge Street, next to a Bradford pear. Two trees, probably Sargent cherries, will be added on Church Street, screening the parking lot by the Congregational church. On the east side of the river, the plan is for trees every 50-60 feet along Bridge Street, continuing along Bentley. Because of the power lines above, these will be lower. Bozzuto inquired about replacing one or more of the snow goose cherries with dogwoods, since they are attractive and native; Rembold said he will look into that. Others in there: Callery pears, hawthorns, shads. This work should not impact the development of the Log Homes plot. In the upper Railroad Street parking lot, trees will go in the triangle spots. Long-term maintenance will be up to the town. The contractor will be responsible for the first few years, on terms like those used on the Main Street project. Planting will be next spring. Funds are coming from a MassWorks grant. No trees are planned for Railroad Street; earlier planning reached no consensus about that, and the tight space would mean that trees would occupy what would be parking places. Hamer suggested providing for planting baskets on the light fixtures there. Bozzuto thanked the town staff for bringing this to our attention.

B. Membership

Bozzuto reported that Beth Moser is stepping off the committee. Chris Wilshire has not come to a meeting or responded to inquiries and he seems not to have even been sworn in; he will probably will be dropped. Shep Evans and Holly Hamer have expressed interest in joining. The total membership should be eight.


IV. Citizen speak time

[None.]

V. General

A. The next meeting, in October, will be at the call of the chair.

The meeting adjourned without objection at 5:56 PM.

  
10/3/18