

Tree Committee  
February 4, 2015 Mason Library

I. Chairman Dennis Gibbons called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. Present were members Dennis Gibbons, Hilda Shapiro, Jess Wilke , Lisa Bozzuto and Beth Moser. Absent: Michael Wise, Laurie Epstein. Also present: Selectboard member Ed Abrahams

II. Minutes from the December 3, 2014 meeting were approved

III. Old Business

A. report from DCR grant subcommittee: Dennis has spoken with Mollie Freilicher (DCR) for clarification on in-kind donations . He asked about calculating dollar amounts for in-kind donations of DPW workers (for watering trees), Tree Warden time, arborists' time, donated trees and volunteer time. All of these can be included in calculations for in-kind donations. Dennis will speak with Joe Sokul (GB DPW) for estimate of worker's time. Ed Abrahams also suggested asked Mr. Sokul if the Town would donate materials i.e. mulch. Lisa Bozzuto passed around working draft of grant proposal for committee review.

The subcommittee will meet again on 2/17/15. The current plan is to have the proposal completed by 3/1/15.

B. proposed GB Tree by-law language:

Dennis Gibbons submitted a draft as follows: "All trees removed or felled by natural acts must be replaced in kind in the vicinity appropriate for future growth."

Dennis will bring this to Michael Wise and ask that it be re-worded to differentiate who will be responsible for replacing the trees. It should also include language indicating right tree/right place and specify that selected trees be chosen from the approved tree list and that planting be under the supervision of the Tree Warden

This conversation led to a general discussion about the Tree Committee requesting that the Tree Warden attend the monthly Tree Committee meetings. Dennis will speak with Jennifer Tabakin about this request.

#### IV. New Business

A. location for 3 new trees in town. Dennis Gibbons has looked at south end of Main St and also along Grove St as possible sites. The committee will also consider putting a tree in the Housatonic Park  
by next meeting the Committee will specify locations for 3 trees. Lisa Bozzuto will offer a suggestion for a tree in the Mahaiwe Cemetery across from the pedestrian entrance to the Fairgrounds

#### B. Heritage Tree Status

Dennis Gibbons has a personal list of significant trees in Great Barrington. After the DCR grant is submitted Lisa Bozzuto will pursue acquiring heritage status for significant trees.

#### V. General

Come to the next meetings with suggestions for Arbor Day

Next meeting is Wednesday March 4, 2015

The meeting adjourned at 6:15pm



Michael Wisc  
Secretary