

Tree Committee

March 1, 2017, Mason Library

I: Lisa Bozzuto called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM. Present were members Michael Wise, Nan Wile, Michael Piretti, and Hilda Banks Shapiro. Absent: Beth Moser. Also present: J. B. Brodeur, Ed Abrahams.

II. Minutes of the meeting of February 1, 2017 were approved, without objection.

III. Old business

A. Tree City renewal

Bozzuto reported that the application, submitted in November 2016, has been approved by DCR and passed on to the Tree City committee.

B. Tree planting budget

After discussion, the committee agreed to ask that the town designate 15 percent of the tree services budget for planting. Bozzuto will draft a letter to DPW, citing the new bylaw and the support of DPW in the past.

C. Arbor Day planning

Shapiro sent a letter to Moser with the detail for a press release. She also spoke with Jodie at Ward's, describing the plan (a contest for paintings and other tangible creations) and inquiring about a location to exhibit them. Wards would donate the prizes: first prize, a tree. The judging committee will include several people from Ward's and several from the Tree Committee. Ward's has not yet confirmed whether they have a place to display the entries. Bozzuto noted that \$80 donated to the Tree Committee from the Green Team has been spent on seedlings from the Arbor Day Foundation to be distributed at the library. Other funds could be applied to printing posters and running an ad in the Shopper's Guide.

IV. New business

A. National Grid project

Piretti said National Grid has been apprised of the town's tree-list preferences and has made a verbal commitment to \$3500 for replacement plantings. This will not actually happen until 2018. This is somewhat less than the last National Grid planting program (which was \$5500), but it might be negotiable.

V. Citizen speak time

J.B. Brodeur will be on the committee soon.

VI. General

A. The next meeting will be April 5, 2017, at 5:30.

The meeting adjourned without objection at 5:27 PM.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J.B. Brodeur", is written in the bottom right corner of the page.