

CIVIC Committee minutes August 14, 2018

Present: Al Marks, Mick Fitzharris, Carol Larson. Visiting: Ed Rohrbach, Tom Wheeler

Call to order 7:43 pm

Discussion of diseased Lazarus Cherry on the green at Woodland Lane. Tom Wheeler visiting from the Shakespeare Guild to inquire about replacing the tree, a memorial to Betty Solway Smith. Carol is in contact with the UDE cooperative extension about what pathogen is affecting the cherry and if treatment is possible. Ed, Carol and Al discussed diseased trees surrounding the green and met Pat Maier, who had a diseased apple tree with similar symptoms to the cherry tree. The Maiers sprayed with pyrethrins and sulfur and the tree improved. Carol purchased same herbicide (an organic) as well as neem oil, also suitable as a fungicide.

We discussed possible replacements for the tree should treatments be ineffective. We discussed trees mentioned in Shakespeare plays. Carol will be in contact with Elizabeth Varley of Shakespeare to get an opinion of which tree species they might suggest. Elms are a suitable choice per Civic to get more shade. Discussion of placement of a new tree further from roadside to clear wires.

Discussion of other trees that need to be replaced. Red maples at Field Theater are declining, especially the one leaning against the large rock onstage.

We have asked Ron to take down the large diseased oak on Harvey Road. It leans over wires. There is also an elm that died this summer in that area.

Discussion of planting orange sugar maples on the large green north end this Fall. Other trees to plant in coming year supported by Delaware Forest Service grant: memorial garden to replace tree loss (bald cypress, tupelo for wet area), Field theater, St. Martins Lane, front of Buzz Ware (to replace declining conifer), etc.

Announce additional trees proposed at Town Meeting in September.

We need a skilled arborist to prune Fels oak. Estimates for dead wood removal and support (or removal) of sagging branch are needed. Carol has a certified arborist to try: Ed Zunino with Tree Huggerz.

No report on Cherry trees in North Memorial Garden. Trees are still healthy.

Al authorized 10 hours of work for Buzz Ware garden bed cleanout by Patrick Barry. Work continues.

Al is waiting for Dave Michelson to return for budget report.

Al worked to get speed bumps painted. They are more colorful now and drivers are slowing down. \$1800

Discussion of cracks on Miller road near museum and weave shop. Perpendicular to roadsides.

Denis O'Regan received payment for Buzz sign. Covered by insurance check from driver knocking down prior sign.

We got a report from a resident that grounds maintenance company was spraying herbicide. Al Marks will investigate pesticide use on curbstones by grounds management company.

Adjourned at 9:15 pm. Next meeting September 4, 2018 at 7:30 pm at the Buzz.