

Middletown Tree Commission Meeting Minutes

For the January 26, 2016 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Karen Day at 4:00 in the Middletown Library conference room.

Those attending were: Shawn Brown, Karen Day, Bill DiMarco, Chuck Di Tucci, Alan Kirby, Bob Johnson, Tom O'Loughlin, BJ Northrup-Owen and Ron Wolaski

1. Finances:

There is approximately \$46.5k in the checking account.

- Includes those mentioned in the previous minutes
 - America the beautiful, Alice B Mayer, Newport Horticultural Society
- Includes \$13k from the town
- Includes \$8k from van Bueren Charitable Foundation
- Approximately \$17.5k of the \$46.5k can be used per our discretion

2. Old Business:

- Valley Park
 - Alan and Chuck presented Design material that included;
 - Visionary Items for the design
 - Logistical concerns and constraints
 - A landscaping (tree planting) plan for the first phase
 - A species list and specification for the first phase
 - A cost estimate of \$63k for 126 trees for this phase
 - The implication is that we would need an additional \$40 - \$60k more for this year's planting.

- Shawn indicated that that would be possible but that we would have to present it to the council
- Karen took the action to make the presentation
- If all goes well, the implementation will go out for bids
- DEM must approve the planting
- Our Prescott Point questions have yet to be resolved.
- The Building plans for 981 Aquidneck Ave have completely changed and do not require our input.
- No action on 850 Aquidneck, although they have agreed to our request in writing
- Discussed pruning and removal for several trees on Forest, Boulevard and Valley Road.

3. New Business

- Maintenance for this Year
 - Demery Park inside and outside
 - Request to the group for other ideas
- We will support the tree planting incentive program this year. This is funded by the van Bueren Charitable Foundation grant mentioned above

The next meeting will be on February 23, 2017, 4:00 at the Library.

The Meeting was adjourned at 5:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill DiMarco, Secretary