

Minutes
Middletown Tree Commission
February 24, 2017

Attending: Karen Day, Chuck DiTucci, Alan Kirby, and Tom O'Loughlin

Financial:

- \$46,480.44 currently in account.
- January 6, 2017, the Town Council voted to award us \$48,300 in addition to \$21,000 we have put aside for Phase One of the Valley Park planting project.
- Review budgets 2016, 2017 and projected 2018 budgets.
- It was decided to increase the Civic Appropriation request to \$10,000.

Valley Park:

- Alan presented plans for Phase 2 planting. As the estimated cost is approximately \$110,000 (double the wholesale cost), it was decided to divide it into 2 plantings. 128 trees in the first planting and 130 in the second.
- The van Beuren Charitable Foundation grant was discussed. They will allow us to request up to 1/3 the cost of planting. If we divide it into 2 plantings, I can demonstrate how the cost of the other 2/3 could be covered and we could request more for the second year. If we did one planting, the most we could ask for is about \$35,000 and I could not show how we would raise the other \$75,000 at this time. It was decided we would ask for \$20,000 for 2018 and see what the bid quotes were and request a second year in 2019.

Street Planting 2017:

- We have received four homeowner requests for the planting of 5-11 replacement trees. A bid request was sent out to 17 vendors with a deadline of March 15th.
- Island Drive HOA has requested one tree and they will share the cost of that tree.

Maintenance:

- We have one maintenance project (Demery Park) held over from 2016. Alan will do some survey work and give us some other projects and this will go out to bid this month.

Taxes:

- Taxes for 2016 have been submitted.
- Because of the Valley Park project, we will probably go over the \$50,000 threshold for non-profits and we will need to submit a full tax return. We will need an accountant and the members are asked for recommendations.

Please note: No meeting on March 30th. Changed to April 6th.