

Minutes
Middletown Tree Commission
December 7, 2017, 4:00

Attending at the Middletown Library: Karen Day, Bill Di Marco, Chuck DiTucci, Alan Kirby, Tom O'Loughlin

Finances:

- There is approximately \$17,698.90 currently in the account. All bills have been paid.
- Valley Park Phase 2 Funding
 - Committed
 - \$20k from the Van Bueren Trust
 - \$50k From the Town
 - Proposal submitted
 - \$4k America The Beautiful

Old Business

- Valley Park Benches:RI Foundation Grant provided 8 benches.
 - Meeting with Rita Lavoie, Tom, Warren, Aquidneck Island Land Trust, and Mason. Decision was made to put them on the upper trail for the view.
 - They will be installed around arbor day by the DPW.
- Valley Park Boulders: Thanks to Chuck's perseverance and JAM's beneficence, JAM positioned 3 boulders at each of the entrances of the park. The Aquidneck Horticultural Society plaque will be added to the one nearest the parking area.
- A planting list for Valley Park plantings Phase 2 was shown by Karen along with a bid request sheet describing requirements and specifications.
 - The form of Karen's list will make it easier to evaluate bids
 - It was decided to try and get the RFQ out earlier this year and thus planned for a meeting on 1/11.
 - Karen to circulate RFQ for comments.
- Maintenance Bids: Left over from last year must be rebid. We have \$4k from the Van Bueren Trust to support this
 - 45 London plane trees Pasture Farm Rd.
 - 37 London plane trees Busher Dr.
- A list for potential street planting was presented by Karen.
- The point was made that the Town still owes us for 6 trees for the tree that was cut down on the corner of Green end and Paradise.
- Bill has been discussing possible student Arbor day activities via Kevin Zahm , a MHS faculty member.

New Business

- Karen met with Councilman Dennis Turano's Woodsy the Owl project Nov. 21, 2017 Various groups were represented. This is a project dedicated to reducing litter .
- Karen and Chuck met with the Dog Waste Group on Dec. 5th . Groups included Open Space, ALT, Clean Ocean Access, Tom, and Beach Commission.
 - As An editorial comment by the recording secretary; I have never seen so much time wasted avoiding a simple solution (providing wasted bags and containers). Oh wait, I forgot about the US Congress.
- Town Council would like our input on the possible removal of a large beech tree near the King Fisher right of way to the water (Peckham-Indian Ave corner)
 - It was decided to get more info from Warren Hall.
- Note:Clean Ocean Access has Bailey's Brook clean-up in the Valley Park area scheduled for March 31, 2018 at 12 PM.

Thee next meeting will be on 1/11/18, same time, large library conference room,

Respectively submitted
Bill DiMarco, Secretary.