

## LANESBOROUGH TREE & FOREST COMMITTEE

### MINUTES OF MEETING June 9, 2014

Agenda sent via email to Town Clerk Wed June 4, 2014 at 12:51PM.

Discussion opened by Robert Fraker at 1:05pm. Lanesborough Library.

Present: Robert Fraker, Anne Pasko, Paula Byrdy, Nick DeCandia, Jim Neureuther,

1. MINUTES: Minutes of the 5/12/2014 meeting approved. A signed copy was provided to Town Clerk.
2. TREASURER'S REPORT: As of June 9 the Revolving Account 285 has a balance of \$3,647.21 which is unchanged from last meeting and the General Fund Account 100 has a balance of \$81.05. Invoices to purchase Arbor Day Trees (\$43.95) and planting cups (\$37) were submitted and should be acted on by Selectman at tonight meeting. This will reduce the General Fund Account 100 balance to \$0.10 by end of fiscal year.
3. ELM TREE TREATMENT. Ron Yaple from Race Mt tree service submitted an estimate of \$1152 which was previously approved to inoculate King Elmer in June. (\$18 per inch of tree diameter). Robert has not heard back from Race Mt on when work will be scheduled. Robert will contact them again. Tree Committee members would like to know when the work is scheduled as all are interested to view the process.
4. AWESOME TREE CONTEST "2" the *Sequel*. Jim created flyers to promote the contest and had 50 initial copies run off at Staples. On behalf of Tree Committee Jim manned a table at the Lanesborough School Luau (Fun Evening) on June 6 to promote the contest. Colored pictures of Trees from the initial contest caught the eye of many passers by as well as 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students who recognized some of the pictures. The contest will run until May of 2015 to provide opportunity for tree pictures to be submitted from summer, fall, winter and spring. Jim will place color posters at Post Office & Library along with entry forms and next Fall Anne will place poster at the school. We hope to get both 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes involved in the new contest and also hope that some of next year 4<sup>th</sup> graders will submit entries again. The contest will also get some exposure when Tree Committee members sell raffle tickets this summer.

Paula will contact remaining winners from the first contest and create a brief summary to help capture statistics from this 1<sup>st</sup> contest.

#Categories, #total entries, #entries for each category, #prizes and type (book, gift certificate, etc) .

Awards: Would be preferred not to keep approaching local businesses for donations. Perhaps a standard award "Tree medallion" can be obtained/created that would be funded by Tree Committee. Goal is to commission a Lasar Tree cutout (of King Elmer?) made from wood. Keep eye out for craft tables this fall/holiday season for the people who specialize in wooden ornament sized lasar/jigsaw cutouts.

5. PLANTING NEW TREES. Robert reported that one Sycamore (previously planted from our nursery) is dead at Laston Park. All agree it should be replaced. Unknown reason for what happened. No evidence of injury from mower, etc. Replacement tree should be suitable for the location which is in a flood plain and along a walking path. Robert will contact Dean Maynard to inquire what trees are available (or can be obtained) and get an estimated cost to plant. Also the Tree Committee will keep in mind that the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Lanesborough will occur in 2015 and we will want to plant a tree near the Historical Society building as part of the historical celebration. What would be appropriate (native tree, flowering tree, other?) and what exact location? More discussion at future meeting.

#### 6. OTHER.

Raffle. Yes we will conduct the raffle to gain exposure for Tree Committee and raise money for planting trees and maintaining King Elmer. Promote the Awesome Tree contest also. Anne will get new raffle tickets made. Same price (\$2 ea or 3 for \$5). Drawing date will be Sept 15, 2014. Robert and Nick will sell at PO on Sat June 21. Anne and Paula will sell at PO on Sat June 28. Jim will sell in July at Recycling and perhaps Laston Park.

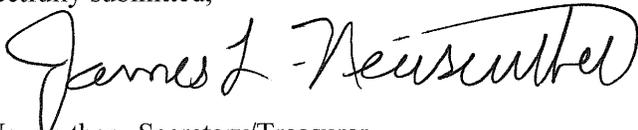
Texas Holdem: Berkshire Poker has open dates in early Sept and January. The early Sept date doesn't work as most members are unavailable. Jim has requested info on any other dates available and will contact members when info is available. We will need to replenish the Revolving account before Fall 2015 when the next trimming of King Elmer is planned.

New members. Jim has followed up contact with Roberta Parker and Jim Robak regarding interest in joining the Tree Committee. Jim Roback is very likely and Roberta Parker is waiting to find out about employment opportunity and ability to fit into her schedule. She is very interested and would like to join the committee. Jim will continue to follow through with both over the summer.

Tree Weeding. Anne reports the trees in the Lanesborough School Arboretum need weeding. Anne, Paula, Robert set Thursday June 19 at 9:30am as tentative weeding party. Jim will hack weeds around the trees at the Rt 7 bypass at Skyline this week since he is unavailable later in June.

Next Meeting. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday Sept 15. Selling raffle tickets will keep members busy and in touch during the summer. Keep an eye on your trees during the summer months.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James J. Neureuther". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J" and a long, horizontal flourish at the end.

Jim Neureuther, Secretary/Treasurer