VILLAGE OF NORTHPORT PLANNING COMMISSION
TREE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES: FEBRUARY 20, 2024

Attendance:

- Members present: Nicole Arbury, Bob Newell, Jane Gale, Anne Harper (via Zoom)
- Staff: Beth Brennan
- Guests/public: none

Agenda Additions/Corrections: In the January 23, 2024 Tree Subcommittee Meeting Minutes, Betsy Ernst was listed as part of the Tree Subcommittee in error.

Public Comment: None

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

- **Consumers Grant** – Mr. Newel reported that the Consumers grant has not yet been issued. He has scouted approximately 15 locations for planting so far and looking to identify more, and develop a village master list and inventory of trees.

- **Arbor Day Planning** – Looking at a White Swamp or a Swamp Oak - a recommended native tree that can live up to 300 years and can be purchased for about $200.00 at local nurseries. A local resident plans to pay for it as a memorial.

  Motion to approve a $250.00 expenditure out of the tree fund to pay for the Arbor Day tree, with the idea that we will receive partial or complete reimbursement from potential donor.
  Approved – All approved
  Opposed – None

New Business:

- **Trail-Head Park** – In January, Betsy Ernst of Peninsula Perennial Nursery presented a project to be located in Trail Head Park which includes significant planting, a pavilion, and some paved areas. This will be a decision for Parks and Trails whether to proceed, and ultimately the Village Council. The Tree Committee is in support of the planting and financing the of several specimen trees in the area.

- **Holiday Tree Spray –** The tree by the Mitten has been afflicted with insects and viral or fungal problems that can be remediated if it is treated yearly or every other year. Treatment is estimated at $521.00 and would include trunk injection, ground injection for adaptogens to keep the tree healthy.

  Ms. Harper moved to approve the expenditure not to exceed $525.00 when the lease is final.
  Approved – All approved
  Opposed - None

- **7th Street Status** – On March 7th a public hearing is scheduled to discuss three proposed options for a property the Village owns.

- **Green Suttons Bay** – Mr. Newel met with Green Suttons Bay representatives to explore fundraising with cans and bottles to see what their approach is, in the way it may be different than ours. There will be a meeting of Green Sutton's Bay on April 11th at the Village Inn Grill.

- **Tree Fund Status** – Tree Fund balance is $8,000.00 with additional funds from ongoing can recycling to be added soon. Ms. Harper suggested utilizing CDs. Mr. Newell is working on a master list for future plantings. He will contact Ian Dawkins, with Leelanau Township to coordinate plantings.

- **Education Efforts** – Bod discussed idea for Willow Tree cloning project – he hopes to work with the school on this. Anne Harper suggested rekindling our efforts on an information sheet to include with Land Use Permit applications. Nicole will work with Anne on this.

- **Arbor Day Plans –** April 26, 2024 10:00 a.m.
    - Bob to contact Chris McCann for his participation
    - Bob will ask Judy Fowler to contact school asking for their participation
    - Bob Stowesand to read poem(s)
    - Nicole will contact Mea at the Enterprise for coverage or photo op
    - Bob to pick up and pay for tree
    - Jane to invite Village Council members to join us

- **Select next meeting Date/Time** – March 19, 2024 – 10:30am

- **Public / Member Comments** - None

- **Adjournment** – 11:44am