

Tree Board minutes
9/15/15 APPROVED

Present: Ian Blount, Margay Blackman, Chris Collier, Ed Lehman, Keith Marshall, Jackie Morriss, Sam Bingay (student intern)

Minutes from 7/1/15 approved

Briefly discussed Andy Pleninger's draft of the Urban Forestry Management Analysis. Andy will either come to the regular October meeting of the tree board or we can schedule a special meeting. Harry Donahue should be present as well. Draft noted some material that needed to be supplied by the village.

Discussed damage to the Ketchum's pink horse chestnut tree on Erie Street and Linda Ketchum's email re same. This is the second time the tree has been damaged. Sam Bingay agreed to get ECOS members at the college to help distribute flyers detailing the damage and penalties for damaging village trees.

Sam noted that the college wished to pursue tree campus status (similar to Tree City USA) and asked for a copy of our application for tree city and a copy of the Master Tree List.

National Grid reimbursement for 6 plantings under utility lines in the spring of 2015 (Arbor Day) totaled 6 trees for \$300.

Chris reported \$56.68 collected from donation jars in August.

Margay presented the following summary of Tree Board Accomplishments and Challenges:

Accomplishments:

- Nearly 300 trees planted since 2005
- 5 DEC grants including a tree management grant
- tree and vegetation ordinances
- Master tree list
- donation jars that brings in a \$400-500 annually
- Tree City status since 2009

Challenges

- National Grid pruning
- Village pruning of trees-
- Need for better communication with DPW

Better community outreach and education

Website—tree planting requests/donation form not on website; tree board page needs to be redone

Work with Andy Pleninger and DPW on tree management plan and inventory database

Recruit new members

Elect a chair and secretary

Chris Collier was elected Secretary. No chair elected yet. Margay will serve in the interim.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm. Next meeting October 20th.