

## Tree Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 19, 2016

49 State Street, (Village Hall), Brockport, NY 14420

**Present:** Margay Blackman, Chris Collier, Ed Lehman, Keith Marshall, Andy Pleninger.

Margay called the meeting to order at 7:15.

**Minutes:** Motion by Ed, seconded by Keith to approve the minutes from the November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. The minutes were unanimously accepted.

**New Member:** At the next village board meeting on February 1<sup>st</sup>, Margay will forward Melissa Brown's name as a new tree board member.

**Miscellaneous:** Harry and Dave Moore, labor foremen for the Department of Public Works (DPW), both agreed that Dave should be the "go to" person for parks and trees.

Dave had suggested that the trees planted during Arbor Day activities were positioned too deep. Although Keith supervises the plantings, maybe we need to have a more thorough inspection.

Andy felt that more residents and businesses need to get involved in watering newly planted trees near their homes and businesses. Although gator bags are used, more watering is necessary, especially at the beginning of a young tree's life.

**Andy's review of new draft:** Andy presented us with an updated revision of the forestry plan. Points and/or changes made by Andy and the board included:

- A new cover photo is needed
- p.6 – Keith will find out how many trees were brought down by the ice storm of 1991
- p.7 – we need to find out the tree species from the 2005 Arbor Day tree planting.

- Forest Health (I) and Forest Protection (II) categories have been put together. Andy will work on some rearranging of information in this category. There was some discussion at the meeting on tree work requests. These requests should be made to the tree board who would then forward requests to the DPW. Constant communication is essential between the DPW and the tree board. It was suggested by Andy that we need a schedule for tree pruning and removal (e.g. Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup>) and that information/reminder letters should be sent to the residents who would be involved. Also, the website and village fall newsletter could be used for reminders.

- In Forest Management (now II), there was some discussion about 'in house' costs versus contract work. Labor costs would involve many things including equipment, transportation as well as other things. There should be a schedule, plan and budget set for the fiscal year. Andy is to work on table 3 on page 14.

- In the Funding category (V), there was discussion about forestry workload estimates. How were they figured? (table 4, page 16). It was noted that tree diameters should determine how much money is needed to remove trees.

- Andy will work on the appendix, go through the plan and revise it. He will then get back to us. We will review both the appendix and the plan. It was felt that there should be minimal work needed on the plan.

**National Grid:** Ken Daly from N.G. is not pleased with the response that Nathan Wright (Lead Supervisor of Distribution Vegetation Management) sent to Margay re: the utility pruning of village trees. This will be examined.

**New Chairperson:** Margay reminded us that a new chair must be elected during our February meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M. Motion by Chris, seconded by Keith.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 16, 2016.

Chris Collier, Secretary