

Tree Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 15, 2016

49 State Street, Village Hall, Brockport N.Y., 14420

Present: Priya Banerjee, Margay Blackman, Melissa Brown, Chris Collier, Kathy Goetz, Tim Kewin, Rick Lair, Merrill Melnick, Ginny Scime, Tony Scime, Jim Zollweg.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04.

Minutes: The minutes from the October 18th meeting were approved with changes. Motion by Merrill, seconded by Chris.

Field Trip to Corbett Park: Melissa, Rick, Margay, Tim, Merrill and Harry Donahue attended the trip to Corbett Park on November 4, 2016. One Homestead Elm will replace five diseased ash trees. Harry has called Northern Nursery – they currently have no trees dug out for planting so it was decided we'll wait until spring to replace the tree.

Emerald Ash Borer: Arborist Jerry Carlson at D.E.C. recommended checking for the presence of E.A.B. larvae in the spring. At this time of year woodpeckers would be feeding on them and it would be more obvious which trees are infected.

Melissa passed out copies of the e-mail she sent to Brian Liberti of Rochester, requesting his assistance in preparing a plan to tackle the E.A.B. problem. Brian is willing to meet with her/us in the future.

Melissa talked about webinars and websites that good sources of E.A.B. information. This pamphlet was passed out. There are two webinars coming up – one on November 29th and the other on December 6th.

Melissa distributed an article written by Cornell University on the E.A.B. Thirty trees on the campus are being treated and 26 are being left due to their advanced infestation. It's very expensive to treat infected trees.

Margay and Rick will check on the location of Brockport's ash trees.

An article on oak wilt was distributed. This is an untreatable fungus. Trees suffering from this disease must be cut down to help prevent its spreading.

Student Involvement:

Tony has two students who registered for an internship next term. It was discussed that they might look at the structure and state of our tree management software database and what it could and should do. Melissa, Carol McNees (D.P.W. Clerk), and Harry Donahue should be interviewed by the students. As well, someone from Urban Forestry should be included as an interviewee.

Jim Zollweg, a guest tonight, has twenty-two students who could look at how the tree database and the G.I.S. could work together. The board needs to firm up its plans as to how they could be of assistance.

Tony and Jim will keep in touch about this project.

Tree City Application: This is renewed annually. Melissa will work on this after Thanksgiving.

Arbor Day – Letter from Brian Skinner, National Grid: We received \$1,600 from National Grid for the four trees that died on South Ave. Extension. We still have thirty two trees that are fine. The money will probably be put in our reserve fund.

Harry has been asked which trees will be trimmed in the coming year.

Service Weekend: Melissa has spoken with Nikole Van Wie (Interim Coordinator for Service and Community Buildings, SUNY Brockport). She is interested in having a service weekend around Arbor Day.

Tree Board’s Web Page: This webpage (in the village website) needs to be revised. We need to look at this before our next meeting. Some things we might consider include are Andy Pleninger’s Urban Management Plan, tree information and tree trivia.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 and this was unanimously passed.

The next meeting of the Tree Board will be on Tuesday, December 20, 2016 at 7:00 P.M., Village Hall.

Submitted by Chris Collier, Secretary

