

Village of Brockport Tree Board Minutes

49 State Street, Brockport, N.Y.

December 19, 2017

Present: Margay Blackman, Melissa Brown, Chris Collier, Tim Kewin, Merrill Melnick, Pryia Panerjee and Lori Staubitz

1. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from November 21, 2017 were accepted with modifications.

Moved – Merrill; seconded - Tim.

2. **Inventory Software:** On December 4, Merrill attended a presentation at the college. Students from Dr. Kamal's information technology development course discussed their project findings on the database system that the Tree Board currently uses – Urforian Manager. They found that although the Urforian system does provide some good reports, it is not efficient in other areas and does not meet the Board's needs (see page 5 of the report). Although it is expensive, the students recommended Arbor-Pro as it best fits our needs. This potential change was discussed and it was suggested that we contact Chris Conlee, Arbor-Pro Sales Manager regarding prices.

3. **Releaf Conference:** Melissa passed out the most recent release from the Monroe County Soil and Water Conservation District. The 2018 Releaf Conference will be held on the R.I.T. campus on July 26th-July 28th 2018. It was recommended that someone from the Tree Board attend as there will be some interesting topics covered (e.g. hemlock woolly adelgid management in N.Y. State, tree health and tree inventory software systems).

4. **Tree and Shrub Program:** The Conservation Tree and Shrub Program has given a deadline of March 2, 2018 for ordering plant stock. It was suggested that we include this information in the February edition of the Suburban News.

5. **Recertification:** Melissa is beginning the process of 'Tree City' recertification for 2018. She will talk to Dan Hendricks about completing the application

6. **Celebration Forest:** It was felt that Lori should get the receipt book for Little Nut donations (Lori's site is celebrationforest-org.com). Melissa will speak to Erica about this. Lori gave us a check for \$585 which includes recent sales, but not sales from Morgan Manning Candlelight Christmas. The History Club of Brockport donated \$300 and Chris will write a thank you note to the President, Marcia McCarthy. There was some discussion about what can be done to promote Celebrate Forest (e.g. getting local scout troops involved with reforestation). Liftbridge will have their bookstore focus on trees in March. Students could be involved in promoting Celebrate Forest. If an individual would like a tree to be planted on their property, tree request forms should be available on the village site.

7. **Spring Trees:** It was suggested that a Tree Board member be appointed to meet with people who are requesting trees for planting and make suggestions regarding which type of trees could be planted. An example of a useful suggestion would be the height a particular tree would attain, given the National Grid utility lines.

Margay discussed tree cutting on the canal. It has been completed in Brockport, but has been delayed east of the village. One complaint from homes on the canal was that the noise and the lights from the Allied buildings was bothersome. Margay will meet with Allied late in December in order to discuss tree planting in front of their buildings. The company has been quite cooperative.

8. **Succession:** Melissa reminded us that this is her last year as Chairperson of the Tree Board. The board is to consider possible successors to Melissa. Some possibilities include Chris Norment, Adam Rich and Stuart Tsubota. Additionally, board members are to consider current members as potential replacements.

9. **Additional Business:** Chris reported that \$253.87 has been collected from the jars between September and the beginning of December.

Pryia voiced her disappointment about the trees being cut down around the Alumni House. We agreed!

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 16, 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10.

Submitted by Chris Collier, Secretary