

Tree Board Meeting Minutes (Approved)

Tuesday, May 21, 2013
Seymour Library, 161 East Avenue, Brockport, NY

Attendance: I. Blount, K. Goetz, H. Heyen, R. Lair, J. Morris, and M. Blackman, Village Board liaison

Minutes: I. Blount made the motion, seconded by K. Goetz to approve the April 16, 2013 minutes as corrected (size of plaque for Jim Stull: 5" x 7"). Unanimously approved.

Discussion Topics

POST-ARBOR DAY [4/26/13] Report/Discussion. The day was beautiful, sunny & successful. Both student volunteer groups (college and local school) were smaller this year, as was resident participation. Brockport's DPW delivered the trees to their destinations on Clark Street. Rick Lair and his crew from The College at Brockport's Facilities and Maintenance Dep't assisted in digging in the trees there, as well as a Rutgers hybrid stellar pink dogwood tree in Remembrance Park in honor of former Mayor James Stull. .

-Trees were bigger with larger root balls this year. Some of the trees had broken branches and their trunks were marred. (13) trees were planted on Clark Street; (4) could not be planted because the sewer line was in the way. The DPW will plant the remaining trees elsewhere.

-Tee shirts sales were down. Following Arbor Day, Leslie Morelli, Village Clerk has the order forms at the Village Hall for those who still want to order some. Margay will check with Leslie as to the status of orders and tee shirts on hand.

SUGGESTIONS FOR 2014 ARBOR DAY:

- We need to order more large & extra large sized tee shirts
- Tee shirt order forms could be sent to volunteer groups, College at Brockport employees, DPW, Brockport School District participants at least a week before Arbor Day
- Encourage getting College environmental club (ECOS) & Department of Environmental Sciences and Biology involved
- Consider our funds to be used (requisition form) for R. Lair's staff (food). This year they volunteered to work over their lunch hour.
- Come up with suggestions of planting area
- Explore the idea of establishing a tree nursery in connection w/ the 3-community Seymour Library (grant?); have children plant saplings
- Create a nature exploring program—learning experiences for children

MEMORIAL TREE PLAQUE (for Jim Stull, former Mayor of Brockport). Ian has submitted a requisition to Lamont Trophies, Spencerport, NY and is waiting for an invoice for the plaque we purchased. Ian will pick up it up and get it to Rick Lair who will attach it to a boulder to be put on permanent display in Remembrance Park. The memorial will be south of the dogwood tree, facing towards Stull Lumber

At this point, more than \$700 has been collected for the tree that cost about \$250 (ordered by DPW's Linda Baker from Northern Nurseries). Jim's widow, Neala Stull wished that the remaining funds go toward tree purchases and beautification in the Village of Brockport

TREE DONATION JAR funds continue to be collected from various businesses around Brockport:

- Since January 2013, \$374.00 has been collected, including the recent \$137 and \$37 respectively
- Margay will ask Leslie to make copies of Tree Board members on official stationery to be carried by H. Heyen, K. Goetz, and J. Morris for identification (along with their licenses) to provide business owners when they pick up tree jar funds. Contact member information will be adhered to the inside of the jar. M. Blackman will also forward the list of businesses (on excel sheet). We will send a thank you note to Mary Pat Musselman, former Tree Board member, for her years of collecting the funds from the tree donation jars
- **2013 EMERALD ASH BORER AWARENESS WEEK:** R. Lair will tie yellow tags with purple tape to mark many of the (54) ash trees in Corbett Park for [residential] awareness. The tag display:
Help Save NYS Ash Trees
Contact: County Cornell Cooperative Extension or
NYSDEC 1-866-640-0652

EMERALD ASH BORER PREVENTATIVE MEASURES: R. Lair has offered (before) to let the Village use the appropriate equipment from the college if they decide to treat selected ash trees. The chemical treatment is effective for four years. The cost is mainly for an arborist who is certified to use chemicals to carry out the prevention program. It would only cost \$8 per tree for the treatment. Ian will check with Luke Vandervort Tree Services about Luke's certification and his willingness to donate his services. Rick and Ian will also check the ash trees that are worth treating—and the ones that are not— when they tag trees there during EAB Awareness Week (May 19-25, 2013)

CORBETT PARK HANGOUT. Members of the Parks Committee have concerns about the teen meeting place on the south side of Corbett Park (run-off/brush/flat ground) north of the Canal towpath.. Does the Tree Board have any recommendations to clear that space to discourage young people from gathering there (smoking, drinking, etc.)? Perhaps, the lower tree branches there can be “limbed up...raise the canopy

STATE OF TREES. The trees on State and Park Streets are doing very well. Some of those planted on Arbor Day, mainly Clark St., appear to be weak. There is a loss of (1) tree and (1) sickly tree on Fayette St.

FALL TREE PLANTING. There is \$2,000 in the tree fund (could purchase 10 new trees). Check the budget for what to plant in the fall and on Arbor Day 2014

SOUTH AVENUE PARK: We discussed and agreed with the Parks Committee, who recommended removing the walnut trees on the east side of the South Avenue Park. They are discussing placement of minimal playground equipment in that area. The walnut trees also infringe on the historic copper beech, and produce huge nut droppings on the grass

GRANT IDEAS:

- Citizen Pruners Program
- Historic High Street Cemetery—tree, bush, and landscaping
- Community: Town of Sweden/Village of Brockport community tree planting (South Ave. extension)

NEXT MEETING: We will not have a meeting in June (Village Election night), but will meet at the Brockport Museum on **Wednesday, July 17, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.**

Hanny moved and Kathy seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting (8:55 p.m.) All agreed.

Hanny Heyen, Secretary

