

Tree Board Meeting

April 20, 2021, 7:00 p.m..

Attendees: Cathy Appleby, Priya Banerjee, Margay Blackman, Ashley Gray, Nick Pitas and Melissa Rivelis

Minutes of March 16, 2021 were approved with minor changes.

Update on inventory by PlanITGeo and Tree Plotter software:

The Village has decided to go with PlanITGeo with their 'Tree Plotter' software to manage our tree inventory. At the next Village Board meeting (May 3), we will sign a contract with them. The service is subscription based, at the rate of \$3000 per year. Margay is negotiating a more manageable price, possibly a discount, if we pay for a period of 3 years. The trees in our Village will be re-inventoried this summer. Tree details such as health of the tree, location, species etc., will be recorded.

Donation jars remake with Melissa's labels:

Margay has compiled a list of places where the Tree Donation Jars with Melissa's updated labels will go. The list includes the following locations: Crossroads Studio, Lighways Journey, Lift Bridge Books, The Custom House, Grinds, Sara's Garden, Perri's Pizza, Mark's Pizzeria, Brockport Smiles, Frankie Fresh, Tractor Supply, Country Max, Java Junction and Eclipse.

Cathy and Ashley will collect the old existing jars and exchange them with the new jars with the new labels. Margay will put new labels on new jars, if anyone has any to spare.

Arbor Day events—10am, April 30 Corbett Park Final poster attached.

Arbor Day this year will be a relatively small affair due to COVID-19 restrictions. We will have assistance from SUNY Brockport and DPW with their new auger, to help plant 16 trees. Eric Hart from the college has arranged for a few athletic teams to participate. We should have enough people attending to plant 16 trees. College students, Corbett park neighbors, Nick Pitas' students, along with Tree Board members will be enough people to make this year's Arbor Day a success.

Ashley Gray, the Village's event planning intern made a program for Arbor day. Included in the program is an children focused activity. Children from the neighborhood (Corbett Park) and local home school groups will participate in an activity called, "Hug a Tree". There are young elm trees, some maples, oak, willows, all huggable! There will be signs on the trees saying, "Hug Me." We are expecting participation from about 10-15 children.

Ashley has also planned a second activity, a paper craft project! Children will be instructed in the construction of little paper trees with limbs to take home. Ashley will also check out some children's books from Seymour Library if the craft project is completed quickly.

There will be live music at Pavilion during planting—Lori Staubitz's group "She Sings," will perform. Their music will be playing for the duration of the tree planting.

The event will begin with introductory remarks from Margay and dignitaries (SUNY Brockport representatives).

Bill Heyen will read his poem.

Included in the celebrations is an award ceremony for Hanny Heyen- in appreciation of her work on the Parks Committee. Margay has a certificate of appreciation for her.

Other notes:

Gary Copeland, our Regional Forester will join the festivities and bring posters to share. Margay also has tree city posters to give away.

Everyone must be masked and sign in (for purposes of contact tracing should anyone be exposed to COVID— and we need a Tree Board Volunteer to sign people in). The volunteers who sign folks in will have to ask the participants standard COVID questions, for example, “Do you have symptoms, have you been tested, have you traveled? Etc..”

Because children will be participating in the celebrations, we will need photo waivers, especially as we will take photos of children as they participate in the “Hug a Tree” activity! We will need to get permission from the children’s guardians – a photo release agreement could be part of the sign-in sheet.

Margay will provide bottled water for the tree planters.

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.