

Tree Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 19, 2017

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

Present: Melissa Brown, Chris Collier, Kathy Goetz, Tim Kewin, Merrill Melnick, Tony Scime and guests Sam Bingay, Noreen Riordan and Lori Staubitz.

Meeting was called to order by Melissa at 7:02 P.M.

Approval of Minutes: Merrill made the motion to accept the minutes as modified; seconded by Tony.

Introduction of Members and Guests: Members of the Board and the three guests introduced themselves. Sam Bingay plans on joining the Board as soon as paperwork is filled out. Noreen Riordan attended as a guest arborist and EAB consultant. Lori Staubitz, an environmental activist, will present a project called "Celebration Forest".

D.E.C. Grants: Margay informed Melissa that there was still no word on these grants.

Software Inventory: Tony gave us a quick review of the project that two of his students did in the spring term. Their report, which was given to the Board, indicated what is needed for our inventory software program. Dr. Kamal has been involved in the past with giving students projects such as Tony students did, but there are no teams formed yet to help continue the research.

Tony reported that Jim Zollweg's GIS project is a good one and would be a good link to our website but it won't be available this year.

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB): Noreen Riordan, an arborist from Terry Tree, is a member of the EAB task force. She shared some information of the ash borer:

1. Trees are injected at their bases with the insecticide while the trees have foliage.
2. Infected trees must be treated at least 2-3 times in their lives.
3. If the tree is over 20% damaged, it isn't usually treated.
4. The location of the trees is also a factor in determining which trees should be treated (sidewalk or road locations versus parks).
5. Dead trees are hazardous as they are prone to falling and damaging property.
6. Sam suggested that we might involve Environmental Science Students to help with ash tree health analysis. Rick Lair, a consultant to the tree board would be a knowledgeable person to contact.
7. Noreen suggested we call around to obtain estimates on hiring an arborist to check on the health of the elm trees before they are recommended for treatment.

Rotary Club: The Rotary Club (Eileen Whitney) has donated \$200 to the Tree Board. The Club expressed interest in planting a tree using that money in Remembrance Park, but Melissa and the Board felt that another location should be chosen as there is little room for a tree in that park. Melissa to speak with Eileen again.

Legacy Project: Lori Staubitz is the founder of "Celebration Forest", a program to encourage interest and support in planting trees. It is a not-for-profit program with Lori donating all profits to the planting of trees. She is interested in involving the Brockport Tree Board with this project.

Lori distributed an information pamphlet which describes the project and the donation levels. "Little Nut" is a book (Lori is the author) that is given with donations of \$30 or more. She would like this book to be promoted. Copies were taken by Kathy (to be shown at Seymour Library) and Merrill (who will share with the second and third grades in Brockport). We will discuss our interest and possible involvement in a future meeting.

Tree Jars: Chris reported that she collected \$174.96 over the summer from the village's tree jars. The largest amount was from Jimmy Z's. She recently collected approximately \$55 from Jimmy's.

Misc: A picture of Margay in the visiting Lois McClure canal boat this summer was passed around. Two young trees were given to Margay and Chris will foster them over the winter.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23.

Submitted by Chris Collier, Secretary

