

Tree Board Meeting Minutes (Approved)

Tuesday, October 21, 2014
49 State Street (Village Hall), Brockport, NY 14420

Attendance: Ian Blount, Chairman; Margay Blackman, Cheryl Blount, Chris Collier, Kathy Goetz, Sandy Cain, Jackie Morris

Ian called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Minutes: Motion by Chris, seconded by Cheryl to accept the September 2014 meeting minutes as presented; passed unanimously.

National Grid Photo-Op

Ian welcomed and introduced Jeff Harrington from National Grid, along with his children, who attended this evening's meeting in order to present us with a "check" for \$350, representing this year's reimbursement for 7 trees planted near utility lines from 2013. Margay took a photo of Jeff presenting it to Ian. Jeff reported that 105 trees have been planted near utility lines since 2007 and that we have received \$5,650 total in contributions from National Grid. Jeff said that National Grid will be back to cut a couple more trees on Monroe Avenue in about 3-4 weeks. He also reported that Brian Skinner is retiring and that Jeff will be taking his position. Ian thanked him for joining us tonight and for the reimbursements received from National Grid.

Donation Jars Report/Treasury Report:

Chris reported jar collections as follows: \$29.17 from Jimmy Z's; \$26.21 from Lift Bridge; Crossroads Hair Studio is yet to be collected from.

There was no treasury report available since Dan Hendricks was away. Ian did say that the \$2,854.37 would still remain the same from the last budget report back in September. The only difference would be what had been deposited from collection jars since then. \$1,500 is still available for general purchases of trees as well.

Discussion: Agenda Topics

Inventory Update:

Ian reported that Andy Pleninger will be joining us at the November 18 meeting to go through everything about the tree inventory that he is now wrapping up. He will also talk about the National Grid trimmings and the tree management grant and the application for the Citizen Pruner Grant.

Fall Planting:

Ian said that the only tree for Fall planting would be the one to be replaced at Patty Good's house. After further discussion, he added maybe the tree near John Deats's house could also be replaced now as well as one Hornbeam in front of 299 Main St. at this time. Ian will contact Harry Donahue to see about availability for any Fall tree planting this year due to the Village Hall Court building project.

Arbor Day :

Ian led discussion that we need to start thinking about Arbor Day 2015 particularly as to the South Avenue Extension, which will be a two-year project starting next year. Also, there will be a big Fall planting for Fall of next year (2015). 67 trees in total will be planted over the next two seasons. Washington Hawthorns have been considered for planting on the side with over hanging utilities because they are more deer resistant in the area for planting. We need to line up volunteers for next year. Margay recommended that Ian also discuss with Harry Donohue about possible options for Spring/Fall plantings over the next two seasons.

Ian also shared that he has started application for the Tree City USA designation. He is awaiting needed information about cost for materials from the 2014 planting season from Dan Hendricks. The application is not due till December 31, 2014 but is in process.

Website Updates:

Discussion about updating our website resulted in Cheryl Blount volunteering to get edits on member information to Waylen. She will work with Waylen on posting more recent news and photos to the website and to get any thoughts he may have for a redesign project. Chris suggested sending him the graphic that is used now in the donation jars.

Tree Board Vacancies:

There are currently two vacancies on the Tree Board that will need to be filled to complete the terms left by the resignations of Hanny Heyen and Tom Nelson. There was discussion about recruitment of new members. Everyone is encouraged to think about community members who might be interested, and would be good to join us.

Brockport Artists' Guild Show:

This event goes through October 30, 2014. Ian will send letters of thanks to artist Richard Hart for donating his work and the money from its sale to purchase a tree to be planted in memory of Jeanne Sozio.

Adjournment:

Ian called for a motion to adjourn. Moved by Chris and seconded by Sandy, passed unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

Cheryl Blount, Secretary

Next meeting date: Tuesday, December 16, 2014