

Tree Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

49 State Street, Village Hall, Brockport N.Y., 14420

Present: Margay Blackman, Melissa Brown, Chris Collier, Kathy Goetz, Tim Kewin, Merrill Melnick.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04.

Minutes: The minutes from the November 15th meeting were approved with changes. Motion by Merrill; seconded by Kathy.

Tree Jars: Chris reported on the status of the board's tree jars. Buritto Fresco's shop has closed; the Grind has taken a jar; Jimmy Z's and Sara's Garden Center had close to \$50 between them. Unfortunately, Sara's will close for the winter on January 1, 2017, reopening at the beginning of April.

Donation: Margay recently presided over a wedding ceremony and the \$100 that she received was donated to the Tree Board. Thanks, Margay!

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB): Melissa passed out a review of a recent webinar, given by a guest speaker from Michigan State. Highlights from the webinar were:

- We need a clear plan of action and a team to deal with the EAB problem.
- We need to know the location of the trees (e.g. Corbett Park; privately owned trees) and which trees are hazards.

- We need to get EAB information out to homeowners through The Suburban newspaper (Tim), our website (Margay), Doug Hickerson and the Sweden Town Hall meeting (Margay). It was suggested that the EAB information could be disseminated during spring of 2017.

- We need to educate the public with regard to tree identification, symptoms of EAB infestations and control methods.

Also reviewed was a Cornell University Cooperative Extension handout that dealt with a community plan to deal with the ash borer.

Tree Inventory: We will see if Carol can find the location of our tree inventory (at last count, 2015, there were 84 ash trees in the village). It was suggested that, for easy identification, ribbons be tied around ash trees. Merrill suggested that this may be a project for our local scout troop.

Steve Turner, from the Pinpoint Group, recently sent an e-mail to Margay noting that he had access to the tree data base. As this is 'live data' (his term), he suggested that we talk to Uforian about setting up an account that would allow others to access and interact with the data without, however, being able to make any permanent changes. It was noted that Tony's students may be of assistance in assessing the structure and state of our tree management software data base.

Tree City Application: Melissa reported that she is almost finished with this year's application (an application is required each year). Margay will speak with Dan and Harry, stressing that Melissa needs the application processed in a timely fashion. Melissa and Margay will meet in order to discuss our application.

With regard to the Tree City Application, Melissa would like to see the Daily Eagle advertisement for Arbor Day 2016.

Website: Merrill and Melissa both reviewed our website and, with respect to the prompt “What information should we add/change?”, it was suggested that there be sections covering:

- i. Tree trivia
- ii. Tree care
- iii. Our tree management plan
- iv. Educational information including, but not limited to, the EAB.

The board was encouraged to look at the tree board website before the January meeting.

The meeting was adjourned 7:52 P.M.

The next meeting of the Tree Board will be held on Tuesday, January 17th, 2017 at 7:00 P.M., Village Hall.

Submitted by Chris Collier, Secretary

