

Tree Board Meeting
Minutes
9/21/21

Present: Margay, Cathy, Kathy, Merrill, Nick, Melissa, Priya

Minutes of the meeting of May 18, 2021 were approved with minor changes.

New database, Treeplotter, and access. Margay informed us that our tree inventory is completed and uploaded into Treeplotter. The Treeplotter people have offered to conduct an online demonstration session for us on how to use the database. The Tree Board members decided to arrange a demonstration when there is an appropriate set up in Village Hall. In the meantime, Margay reminded the board to continue to explore the database. Information about accessing the database is available in Margay's email of 9/19. The Treeplotter database is available at <https://pg-cloud.com/brockportny/> to see Brockport's trees located on a Google map. Use the login mblackman, password maple899.

Website upgrade needed. Margay urged the Tree Board to review the website and send suggestions and updates to her. There is a need for a variety of changes to be made to the website, particularly the forms. The forms etc. on the website need to be streamlined, made "fillable" or auto-filled and easily accessible. For example, the Tree Request form, the Bench Request form should be connected to the Tree Board website. The Memorial Tree request form also needs to be linked to a prominent spot on our website. Merrill wondered whether there were any students in the Computer Science department who could assist us in the update and revision of our website, possibly as a student project. Priya said she would ask the department chair of Computer Science, if this was a possibility.

Tree donation jars update. Cathy reported that she accessed the jars three times. In June, she collected \$120, \$96 in August and \$55 in September, for a total of \$271. Jars in Liftbridge and Sara's Garden seem to attract the most donations. They all have the fabulous new logo and graphics!

Beech tree in South Avenue Park—replacement, wood. The Beech tree is located on property once owned by the Dailey family. A senior member of the Daly family who lived on the property has expressed an interest in participating in the replacement of the tree. The Village has also discussed renaming the park, and the final decision as to its name will be left to the Dailey family. Margay said that we (the Village) would like to save the bottom of the tree to determine the age of the tree and possibly make a table out of the wood. DPW will take the tree down late fall.

Two annual plantings—fall and spring. Margay would like to go back to a fall and spring tree planting. This may be put off until next year. This is usually in response to folks requesting a tree planted on their property.

Corbett Park trees—update and replacement tupelos. Margay reported that a DEC forester came to Brockport to discuss how the new trees planted on Arbor Day were encroaching on the Tupelo trees' roots and the DPW had to cut/trim the roots. Northern Nurseries from where the Tupelos were purchased have agreed to replace all four of the trees. Three of the new trees will be planted on Utica street – in the long stretch without trees. And the last one, will be planted on the Seymour library property.

Celebration forest plantings—South Ave Park? Lori Staubitz has reported that she and her singing band receives money for their performances in the name of Celebration Forest. There have also been donations for memorial trees and we should be keeping the donors apprised of where/when their trees are planted. The Tree Board members discussed planting lilacs instead of small trees.

Planting sites on Park Avenue and High Street per our database. In response to the large amount of donations received in Alicia Fink's sister's name, the Village made a decision to plant many (not just one) trees in the neighborhood where she'd lived. The planting will be done on Arbor Day next year.

Other: Melissa informed the board that she has accepted the position of GIS Analyst/ Forester for the city of Rochester, and to meet their residency requirement, she will have to move to Rochester in the next two years. Although the Tree Board members were delighted for her, we were dismayed that she may no longer be able to be a member of the Tree Board. Margay said that the Village has considered doing away with the residency requirement for certain committees. And the Tree Board members expressed their enthusiastic support for such a change.

Next meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2021 at 7:00 p.m..

Meeting adjourned 8:00.