

**VILLAGE OF ESSEX JUNCTION
TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 22, 2014 AT 6:00 PM
ESSEX HIGH SCHOOL
AGENDA**

- Minutes review;
- Tree Inventory Update;
- Tree Pruning Update;
- Management Plan Update;
- Planning for Outreach at Farmer's Market;
- Public Input.

Certification:

Date Posted:

Initials:

MINUTES SUBJECT TO CORRECTION BY THE ESSEX JUNCTION TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE. CHANGES, IF ANY, WILL BE RECORDED IN THE MINUTES OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE.

**VILLAGE OF ESSEX JUNCTION
TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
JULY 22, 2014**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nick Meyer, Paula DeMichele

ADMINISTRATION: Darby Mayville, Community Relations and Economic Development Assistant

OTHERS: Mandy St. Hilaire (State of Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program)

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM by Nick.

2. ADDITIONS OR AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

None.

3. MINUTES REVIEW

The committee did not have quorum, and thus did not review the minutes.

4. TREE INVENTORY UPDATE

Mandy said that she has completed the inventory. She spent roughly twelve hours on this project, and was able to catalog 175 trees, and noted 349 sites that would be good areas to plant new trees. She said that 91% of the trees were in good condition.

It was also noted that the maps were not yet updated. Mandy was not sure when this would be done, as the Urban & Community Forestry Program is in the process of switching their mapping software.

5. TREE PRUNING UPDATE

Nick said that he and Warren had given Public Works a pruning lesson a few weeks ago, and that it seemed well recieved.

6. MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

Mandy distributed copies of the draft management plan that she has been working on. This was developed with input from committee members and staff. She said that the inventory section was basically finished, but that she could use more input from the committee on the overall setup, as well as with other sections of the report. She hopes that this project could serve as a

template for other Vermont towns to use. Mandy noted that she would be moving to Lincoln, Vermont next month, but would be available through e-mail.

The following are some of the committee's suggestions:

- Add a section about the importance of trees in the executive summary.
- Highlight voids in current plantings. Nick noted that the Village has typically planted in the downtown area and on the main arteries, but that he believes that we could use more trees throughout the community.
- Highlight potential partnerships, such as with local businesses, the Community Development Department, and Public Works.
- Include pictures of Central Street before and after tree plantings.

Mandy noted that she used the iTree Canopy program to develop much of the data in the document. She said that Essex Junction has more tree coverage than most areas. Nick said that he thought that much of this is due to the fact that we have a mix of forested areas with areas that are bare of trees. Mandy encouraged the committee to begin to think of a five year goal for tree cover in Essex Junction.

The group discussed how to portray the budget in this document. Mandy said that it would be important to show the committee's success rates. Mandy suggested that the budget contain specific costs, and detail a five to ten year period.

7. PLANNING FOR OUTREACH AT FARMERS' MARKET

Mandy said that she would be able to be present for the August 1st Farmer's Market. Nick said that he would be able to attend as well, and would be checking in with the other committee members to see if they would be able to join them. The group agreed that it would be a good time to potentially recruit a fifth member.

The committee began to brainstorm ideas of how to engage citizens at the market. Some of the ideas include:

- Children's activities, including stickers and temporary tattoos.
- Copies of the tree inventory.
- Information on emerald ash disease.
- Index cards to tell "tree stories."
- Informational pamphlets.
- Maps.

Darby said that she would make name tags for the committee.

8. PUBLIC INPUT

None.

9. MEETING SCHEDULE

Next meeting

- August 19th at 6 PM

Agenda Items

- TBD

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by NICK, SECOND by PAULA, to adjourn the meeting. VOTING: unanimous; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Darby Mayville