

**VILLAGE OF ESSEX JUNCTION
TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY JANUARY 5, 2015 AT 5:30 PM
BROWNELL LIBRARY
AGENDA**

- Minutes Approval;
- Prep for Trustee's Meeting;
- Planting Planning;
- Tree Inventory Updates;
- Tree Walk Planning;
- Public Input.

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
January 5, 2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nick Meyer, Rich Boyers, and Mary Jo Engel

ADMINISTRATION: Rick Jones, Public Works Superintendent and Darby Mayville, Community Relations and Economic Development Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 PM by Nick.

2. MINUTES REVIEW

MOTION by Mary Jo, SECOND by RICH to approve December minutes. All in favor.

3. DISCUSSION WITH RICK JONES

Since Rick was unexpectedly able to attend the meeting, the committee took advantage of the opportunity to ask him some questions.

Mary Jo showed Rick the current Tree Inventory, and asked for his input. He said that the most important information listed was the address, tree id number, and the condition. It would be useful to have some way to directly enter condition and maintenance information into the inventory. The committee all agreed that this would be ideal.

Nick asked Rick how he felt the relationship between the Tree Advisory Committee and Public Works was, and if there was anything that the committee could do to help them?

Rick said that he had learned a lot about trees from the committee. He noted that their help in identifying planting locations and pruning education was especially helpful.

Nick asked if there were any tools that Public Works needed that the committee could provide?

Rick said that the hand tools that the committee had purchased last year were working out well, and have helped with pruning. He is also looking into ways to make watering more efficient.

Nick asked if requesting that homeowners take care of trees planted in their yards would be a good way of reducing Public Works's responsibilities with trees?

Rick said that he felt that it was important for Public Works to take care of watering, at least for the first year, in order to maintain the investment in the tree.

4. PREP FOR JANUARY TRUSTEES MEETING

Nick updated the committee on recent edits to the management plan, and mentioned that he was meeting with Municipal Manager Pat Scheidel and Community Development Director Robin Pierce tomorrow to finalize the document.

Nick said that the presentation to the Trustees should be relatively short, and shared a draft memo prepared for the meeting. The three things that he hoped to address were: an update on the activities of the Tree Committee, approval for a Tree City USA application, and approval for the Management Plan.

Both Nick and Mary Jo will be attending and speaking at the meeting.

5. 2016 TREE PLANTINGS

Nick noted that the committee planned to plant one tree at Maple Street Park as a part of their Arbor Day celebration.

Nick noted that it would be a good idea to get a multi-year plan for Village plantings. He mentioned that some of the members of the Planning Commission had been requesting this. He also noted that new construction, such as the Crescent Connector and the Multi-Use path, will impact future plantings.

Mary Jo suggested planting some trees on Central Street. Nick noted that Park Street and Railroad Avenue could both use some additional trees.

6. TREE WALK PLANNING

Mary Jo passed around the most recent version of the tree walk brochure. She mentioned that she was still waiting for the map and the graphics to be completed. She suggested the possibility of holding a contest to encourage a young artist to design them.

It was decided that this brochure would be printed in color and given to the Trustees at their January 12th meeting.

Nick suggested that Arbor Day would be a good time to launch the Tree Walk. He also suggested the idea of having a celebration at Maple Street Park at this time.

Darby noted that it would be a good idea to coordinate with the Bike/Walk Committee, as they also planned on holding a celebration at Maple Street Park during May. There was some discussion about combining the two events, and Darby said that she would run this idea by the Bike/Walk Committee at their next meeting.

The committee discussed potential activities and publicity for event.

7. PUBLIC INPUT

None.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on February 1st, 2016. Agenda is TBD.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by NICK, SECOND by MARY JO to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Darby Mayville