

VILLAGE OF ESSEX JUNCTION
TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY MARCH 1, 2016 AT 5:30 PM
BROWNELL LIBRARY
AGENDA

- Minutes Approval;
- Maple Street Park Event Planning;
- 2016 Tree Planting: Upper Main Street and South Street Focus;
- Looking Ahead: Crescent Connector and Safety Path;
- Inventory Update;
- New Items Not on the Agenda;
- 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
March 1, 2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nick Meyer, Rich Boyers, Woody Martel, Warren Spinner and Mary Jo Engel

ADMINISTRATION: Darby Mayville, Community Relations and Economic Development Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:42 PM by Nick.

2. MINUTES REVIEW

MOTION by Warren, SECOND by Rich to approve the February minutes. All in favor.

3. MAPLE STREET PARK EVENT PLANNING

The time of the event was set as 10 AM-12PM.

Warren noted that Matt Leonard, from the state of Vermont, expressed willingness to lead a tree walk at the event.

Nick said that he would contact the Essex Conservation Committee to see if they are willing to have a table at the event on invasive species.

Rich said that he had been doing some research on the price of seedlings. Dirt and containers will also need to be purchased for the event. It was decided to purchase 50 Norway Spruce seedlings.

MOTION by Warren, SECOND by Rich to authorize Rich and Nick to purchase up to \$200 of seedlings and planting supplies for the event. All in favor.

Warren noted that it is important that attendees understand that the seedlings must be planted outside. It would also be good to educate attendees on proper planting locations.

Nick said that he had met with Harlan Smith, Grounds & Facilities Supervisor at EJRP, regarding a potential planting location at Maple Street Park. Harlan said that there was limited money in the budget for tree plantings, but that they would be able to buy a tree to be planted near the pool. Warren suggested planting a large shade tree in this area with minimal seed droppings. The tree that was removed was a birch tree, which did well in sandy soil.

Warren suggested a freeman maple for this location. Mary Jo asked if there would be any issues with pool chemicals in this area, and Warren responded that there would not be.

Nick said that additional trees should also be planted in the parking lot.

Nick said that Harlan would set up an event sign near the corner of the park. He also suggested that a blow up map could be used for this. He will contact Sammel Signs to discuss specifications. Mary Jo said that she is waiting on a logo and map design from her nephew.

Warren stated that he and Matt Leonard will be doing the tree walk, and will give a committee overview at this time as well. It is estimated that the walk will last for two hours, including questions.

Mary Jo suggested that the walk be filmed in the future.

Nick noted that Elise Schlader, from the Urban & Community Forestry Program, has offered to assist with publicizing the event. Warren mentioned that she would be a good person to help with the kids' activities, and offered to invite her.

Woody offered to draft a letter to the Essex Reporter about the event. Warren suggested that he highlight the fact that it is an Arbor Day event, as this is a requirement for the Tree City recognition.

Warren suggested having an event photographer as well as a check in station at the park. The check in table could have a place to sign up for additional information on committee events.

Rich offered to try to recruit some high school volunteers for the event.

Mary Jo suggested that props, such as girdled tree roots, would be good to have at the event. Woody suggested connecting with the Little League concession stand to let them know that they may need to prepare for additional customers the day of the event.

4. 2016 TREE PLANTING

Rich said that he thinks that 4+ trees could be planted on Route 15. Nick will contact Public Works Superintendent Rick Jones about this idea.

Nick mentioned that the town Conservation Committee was going to be working on a tree inventory.

Planting locations on South Street were also discussed.

Nick suggested adding a walking element to the April meeting in order to review potential locations. Warren said that it is important to pick out trees sooner rather than later to ensure the best selection.

5. LOOKING AHEAD: CRESCENT CONNECTOR AND SAFETY PATH

Discussion tabled.

6. INVENTORY UPDATE

Discussion tabled.

7. NEW ITEMS/PUBLIC INPUT

The Village Tree Advisory Committee has been invited to participate in the Branch Out Burlington (BOB) Tree Keeper workshop on April 14th. BOB will run the event, however the TAC will help them promote it, and will have the chance to give a short presentation on their committee.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on April 5th 2016, at 5:30 PM. Agenda is TBD.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Rich, SECOND by Mary Jo to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Darby Mayville