

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
APRIL 18, 2017**

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Tim Kemerer

ADMIN PRESENT: Darby Mayville, Community Relations/Economic Development Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 PM by Nick.

2. MINUTES REVIEW

MOTION BY NICK, SECOND BY RICH TO APPROVE THE MARCH MEETING MINUTES. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSED.

3. 2017 PLANTING SPECIES

Nick said that it is anticipated that the Village will plant seventeen trees this year: on Arlington Street, Maple Street, and South Summit Street. He reported that several families who will be getting trees this year attended the Tree Keeper Training earlier this month.

Some of the trees have been ordered already, however Nick wanted to check in with the committee to see what type of input they wanted to have on this process. The Trees will be ordered from Gardener's Supply and Cobble Creek Nursery. The Village will be responsible for watering for the first year after the tree is planted.

Mary Jo asked if species varieties will be mixed? Nick said that they would be. He also noted that he is working with the homeowners to choose an appropriate species for each location. Many homeowners do not want crab apple trees due to their bad reputation.

All agreed that Nick would be the main contact on species selection.

4. LOGO DESIGN UPDATE

Rich said that he had nothing to report on this project. Tim suggested the possibility of paying a high school student to work on this project over the summer.

5. ARBOR DAY & CTE

The Village Arbor Day celebration will take place on May 5th, 2017. CTE students will be working with the committee to plant maples near the high school flag pole. Around 10-12 students will be helping with this project. Nick plans to invite the Essex Reporter to this event.

Rich asked if CTE students would be planting street trees for the Village at some point? Nick said that he was not sure, but that it would be a good goal.

6. ARBOR DAY CONFERENCE MONTPELIER

This conference will be held on May 4th. Mary Jo, Warren, and Nick will all be in attendance.

7. TREE MAINTENANCE PRIORITIES

Nick said that he hoped to have Public Works begin pruning soon.

Tim asked how records are kept for these projects. Nick informed him of the Village tree inventory, and said that when the initial inventory was done all trees were ranked by problem severity, if applicable.

8. MAPLE STREET PARK TREE INVENTORY

Nick said that EJRP will not be applying for the Caring for Canopy grant to do a tree inventory of Maple Street Park. It is hoped that they will be able to work with UVM to do an inventory sometime this summer.

Mary Jo suggested that the committee assist with this project during the summer in lieu of their regular meetings.

Tim noted that there were some issues regarding trees when the bike track was created. Many trees and their roots were displaced in order to construct this.

9. OTHER BUISNESS

Nick said that it would be good if a committee member took the lead on public relations. He said that there are many article skeletons available on the Vermont Urban & Community Forestry website. These would just need to be personalized and submitted to the Essex Reporter or other media outlets. The main goal of these articles would be to publicize the benefits of trees. Rich and Mary Jo both offered to help with this.

Nick said that he is going to encourage homeowners to tell others about their plantings, in order to bring more attention to the program.

Darby will send out the Tree City USA press release.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by NICK, SECOND by MARY JO to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:27 PM.

Respectfully Submitted: Darby Mayville