

VILLAGE OF ESSEX JUNCTION TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTERS 09/21/2021.

In attendance Nick Myer, Warren Spinner, Steve Rivard, Rick Boyers, Sheridan Johnson.

A Motion to accept the August minutes was approved unanimously.

Fall Tree Planting: The Branch Out Burlington Tree Nursery will yield 32 trees. 7 to be planted this fall on Mansfield Avenue, with the remainder to be planted in Spring 2022. This inventory consists of 10 Celebration Maples, 8 Princeton Elms, 3 Common Hackberry, 4 River Birch, 2 Skyline Honey Locust and 5 Japanese Tree Lilacs. Spring Planting will be in the Hayden, Tyler, Wilkinson, and Lovie Steet, Clem Drive areas.

Other potential planting locations: Brickyard Road, Old Colchester Road, Maple St, (on the North side across from the Global Foundry entrance). And Potential plantings at the Police Station and ADL school both on Maple St. Continued emphasis on “gateway streets” and those in attendance were asked to bring other potential planting sites to the next meeting.

Outreach: Continued discussion on door to door canvassing, and use of front door hangers for private property.

Land Development Code: Discussion of suggested changes to Section 719: Landscaping and tree planting requirements of the Village of Essex Junction Land Development Code. This entails: Purpose and intent, Tree Protection, Street Trees, Landscaping, General Requirements, Maintenance, Failure to Maintain, and Design Standards.

Promotion: Discussion of colored moveable Signage (Sidewalk Greenbelt Signs) to promote recent plantings. The committee was asked for ideas on verbiage and to submit for final approval at the October Meeting.

Planning Commission: Closer work with this Commission is deemed to be necessary to ensure that the Landscape Plan aligns with the use of the property. An emphasis on oversight was discussed with the example sited of the recent Park and Maple Street Developments. The committee seeks to incorporate the use of the “Vermont Green Streets Guide” to better define what it believes is in the best long term interest of the Village.

Public Engagement: Awesome Tree contest and Maple St Park Tree walk tabled until next year.

Meeting adjourned 7:20 pm.