

Village of Perry Tree Board
December 12, 2018

Present: Dan Zerbe, Ralph Field, Robin Redding, Levi Hauser, James Reynolds, Felisa McKay, Eleanor Jacobs

Chairman Zerbe called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

The PoeTREE committee provided an update. James has coordinated with elementary school curriculum coordinator, Lauren Combo. Entries are grouped by grade levels: K-1, 2-3, 4-5. Each level has a theme. Teachers will select the three best poems from those grade levels. The PoeTREE committee will meet at **6 p.m., Wednesday, March 6, 2019**, to judge the entries. Winners' poems will be put into a book with illustrations from last year's poster contest.

One of the red maples planted earlier in 2018 on Buckland Ave. was destroyed by a pickup truck. Eric has talked to the nursery contact about a replacement. The driver's insurance pays for the tree.

Dan reported that the village planted 63 trees in 2018. He handed out the 2019 log which is also available as a Google doc.

Dan and Ralph met with Rotarian Eric Parker to discuss the Rotary grant of \$2,750 that will pay for approximately 23 trees. As a followup, the Rotary grant committee met on Dec. 13, 2018, and approved these locations for planting: Lake St. at the village edge, Dollar General property at Rt. 39 & S. Federal, Henrickson property on Gardeau, N. Main & Water St. and the Pioneer Grounds on Walker Rd. Rotarians will plant the trees, coordinating the timing with the village's Arbor Day celebration. Dan will arrange to order trees appropriate for these locations.

Clerk Gail Vosburg has completed the first steps for the DEC urban forestry grant. Two representatives of forestry companies have contacted the village asking about the grant. Dan has talked to one person to gauge appropriateness. The question arose about what is appropriate since Wendel completed the grant for the village with the expectation that it will be awarded the work. Eleanor will follow up to get an answer. James will be the tree board's grant liaison, working with Clerk Vosburg and Adam. It's suggested that James, Gail, Eleanor and Adam have a conference call.

The Garden Club wishes to donate a tree in memory of Mrs. Woitscheck. Eleanor will talk with Carol Preen to learn if the club has a location, type of tree, amount and plaque wording.

Dan proposed that the board form a spring planting subcommittee as a way to use volunteer board members more effectively. The subcommittee will meet regularly to discuss planting plans, perform on-site evaluations and contact owners. Once planting is scheduled the group will mark the locations. Members may also do some pruning. The subcommittees first meeting is **Saturday, Jan. 5, 2019, at 9:30** in the village office. All welcome.

Dan will contact the school about planting three trees in the spring after PoeTREE winners are announced. (Update: The school contacted DPW's Eric Kelly to ask if the village would donate three trees to replace three the school is removing. Question answered.)

Felisa suggested that the tree board have a booth at the Perry Farmers' Market in the summer. Decision tabled until March.

Eleanor reported that the three white pines the board planted in the Lake St. park have been compromised by white pine weevil.

Next meeting: **Wednesday, March 13, 2019. 7 p.m.**