

Village of Perry Tree Board  
Minutes  
December 4, 2019

Present: Dan Zerbe, Ralph Field, Lori Schofield, Felisa McKay, Robin Redding, James Reynolds, Rose McEwen, Eleanor Jacobs

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

James gave a summary of the 2019 DEC Urban and Community Forestry Grant application that he submitted on Dec. 3, 2019. The bids were higher than expected so the village increased amount requested to \$50,000. With the Village's 25% match, the grant total would be \$66,667.00. Even so, the scope of work had to be limited to 75% of the pruning. DPW will have to address the 21 trees to be removed and the rest of the pruning. The department can begin the 5-year pruning cycle, done in zones. The Tree Board thanks James for all his time and effort to complete and submit the grant.

Dan sought feedback on work days; board members support them. Eleanor suggested sending letters to homeowners who received trees in the last two years, reminding them about tree care such as watering and weeding. It could include explanation of the tree bags.

The village planted 18 trees, primarily on Lake and Center (near the bank parking).

Robin reported that Steve Townes has concerns about lack of trees on Center St. from Pine to the intersection of Lake/Center/Leicester streets. Dan will review the area. Lack of planting space maybe a problem.

There is approximately \$2,400 available to purchase trees for spring planting. The goal is to plant 22 trees, with a focus on N. Center, Hawthorne, and Fruit streets. The board decided to plant service berry trees on Fruit (they being loosely defined as fruit trees). Once homeowner letters are returned, a subcommittee will confer on trees to be ordered.

The board approved Saturday, April 25, 2020, as Arbor Day in Perry. If trees for spring planting have arrived, the celebration will include plantings. The board set Saturday, May 2, 2020, as a pruning workshop to be conducted by Cornell Cooperative Extension's Don Gasiewicz.

Dan raised the question of whether residents and non-profits could purchase trees for private property through the village's ordering system. Specifically, he would like to see trees planted on the strip of property between the Baptist and Presbyterian churches on Main St. Rose agreed to develop language that could be added to the Standards & Specifications to that effect. if approved by the village attorney and village board.

Ralph will represent the tree board on the village's Silver Lake Trail steering committee.

Next meeting: Thursday, March 5, 2020. 7 P.M. Village Hall.

Submitted by,  
Eleanor Jacobs

