

Village of Perry  
Tree Board Minutes  
October 1, 2020

Present: Dan Zerbe, Steve Deaton, Robin Reading, Felisa McKay, Lori Schofield, James Reynolds, Karen Wyant, Eleanor Jacobs

As new DPW superintendent, Steve will receive copies of the village's tree law and its standards and specifications document.

Dan proposed the board develop a traveling presentation to take the Tree Board's story to other communities. Don Gasiewicz suggested this to assist other communities that don't have tree boards.

The Tree Board requests that DPW place mulch at the village park for use on the first Saturday workdays. Steve will have that done.

The Tree Board encourages better communication with residents who have a tree slated for removal. Going forward, the village will send a letter and a tree request form to residents where DPW plans to remove a tree. (Dan has drafted that letter as of 10-5-20)

Members discussed ways to protect village-planted trees from mowers and weed eaters. Water bags help years 1 & 2. For years 3 - 4, the board requests 50 tree protectors that wrap around trunks. To control weeds, the board requests the village order DeWitt weed barrier. Steve will order both items through the clerk's office.

The board reviewed staking trees. It requests 3 adequately tightened stakes per tree. DPW will stake trees, and the Tree Board will put down fabric and mulch.

Bare root trees will be planted in November when they are delivered from Schichtel's. The same process will be followed: Dan will mark locations; DPW will call in and confirm locations. DPW will dig holes and plant trees. (The Garden Club's donated memorial tree for the Lincoln Ave. area will be planted in the spring.)

The Tree Board will host a second pruning workshop with Cooperative Extension's Gasiewicz for the spring to celebrate Arbor Day. The village board must pass a resolution to recognize Arbor Day in Perry.

Felisa will contact elementary school principal Maura Gilsinan to gauge the interest in a Tree Board/school collaboration celebrating trees again this year.

The board discussed the possibility of developing an app that could ID trees in the village and incorporate that into a walking tour.

The November work day will take place after trees are planted.

Next meeting: Thursday, Jan. 7, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor Jacobs