

Lockport Tree Committee Meeting – Monday, October 25, 2021

Called to order by Chairperson, Rick Abbott @ 4:00 P.M. via Go To Meeting

Attendance: Rick Abbott, Mike Hoffman, Becky Wilson and Sue Watson

Minutes from the 9/20/21 meeting were approved as written.

Old Business/Grants:

1. Rick said the RFP came in and that the DEC recommended the bid – AJ's bid won.
2. Mike talked about the USDA Forestry Grant
 - included us in a county wide grant along with NT and NF
 - \$22,500 for trees about 100 trees – they provide everything
 - we provide the “bull” work, mulch and watering
3. Rick mentioned that he talked to the Mayor and asked about monitoring – if we lose more than 10% we have to pay for replacing them
 - There is a concern as to who will take over as Rick will be off the Council and Mike is retiring
 - It was noted that the USDA was in the city and it looked like they were looking for some other infestation – possibly Hemlock???
 - Mike said he wasn't too worried about loss or being taken care of because they are planting them correctly and using a mini-excavator which helps “working smarter not harder”
 - We did lose some bare root trees but it depends on how soon we get them in the ground
4. Mike reported that 21 trees were picked to cut down
 - We had a list of 30, the DEC wanted 50 but we got 25
 - **We will get 25 trees each time – spring of '22, fall of '22, spring of '23 and fall of '23
 - We are almost at our match of cutting down 27 trees
 - \$50,000 coming from grant to cut down trees
 - \$12,500 – AJ's Tree Service is doing the rest of them
5. We got a list from Jenna on all sites for planting trees
 - Mike will review it and when we know where we are planning on planting trees we will send a postcard to the residents and have them respond ONLY if they do not want the tree
 - **USDA Boxwood Tree moth – they are mostly shrub trees
6. May have to hire extra workers to work the water truck in the summer
 - We will most likely plant trees like Pinto Oaks, Jack Pears, seedless Gingkoes, etc.
 - We should send an email to Mike if we see a neighborhood where trees could be used
 - Trees can be planted up until the ground freezes
7. Rick asked Sue if a teacher had reached out to her, she was interested in the Tree Program?
 - Sue said the Go Green Club is starting up again
 - She is going to check to see if the High School Wilderness Club is interested in doing anything??

New Business: - nothing at this time

Meeting adjourned at about 4:47 P.M.

Next meeting will be Monday, November 22, 2021 at 4:00 P.M. via Go To Meeting

Submitted by Becky Wilson