

Village of Ballston Spa Parks and Tree Board Meeting Minutes 2-23-2021

Meeting held via Zoom

Meeting called to order 7:01pm

In attendance- Liz Kormos, Kris Williams, Judy Esposito, Mike Tower, Ed Hersch, Stacy Simmons

Approval of minutes for 1-19-2021 meeting- Motion made by Kris, second by Ed, all approved

There was no Public Comment.

Old Business- Liz reported the tree at Remsen and McMaster is gone, but not sure who took it down?

New Business-

Tree Grant

- The revised work plan was submitted and we should have the approved contract in a week or so according to Michelle
- Michelle sent an example RFP and highlighted what should be included in ours.

Liz commented that the Linkage Grant has an upcoming sidewalk inventory and will dovetail with the tree inventory regarding the damage the tree roots are causing to the sidewalks.

Kris read the Bethlehem RFP and commented the following

- Use the recommended contractors for bids and keep in state
- What is their methodology to determine the health of trees, metrics for collection/ reporting inventory, maintenance of trees, etc

Wiswall Park Committee to meet soon

Judy shared the request from the Ballston Spa Home and Garden Club to hear about what this board is doing. Judy will present on May 13th at 1pm at a meeting that will be open to the community.

Liz shared our Tree City responsibilities to continue as a Tree City

- Public outreach/ education
- Arbor Day- We decided upon Saturday May 1st at 10am- Mike suggested we locate it in Kelly Park? Kris suggested a demonstration webinar for how to plant a tree

Stacy requested we all think about defining the scope of this board and its structure for now and for the future. We are an advisory board, but need to define our objectives. We will discuss more at the March meeting.

This sparked more conversation from board members-

- Liz- we deal with and manage the trees in the parks and along streets
- Judy shared she hasn't been able to check the emails yet. She and Liz will handle this. Judy also asked about this board posting on the village website
- Kris suggested strategy planning, 2-3 goals, objectives, structure and purpose, primary and secondary focus

Mike shared information about the Buffer in a Bag for along the Kaydeross at Kelly Park. He will be applying for it with The Friends of the Kaydeross for acquiring riparian plants. Mike will also share info about the Park and Tree Board at the annual meeting for the Friends of the Kaydeross. He will also be discussing Kelly Park with Mayor Woolbright.

Next meeting will be March 23, 2021.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Ed, second by Judy.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06pm.

Respectfully submitted by Stacy Simmons