

Village of Ballston Spa Tree and Park Board Meeting via Zoom 4/21/2020

Meeting began at 7:03pm

In attendance- Judy Esposito, Ed Hersch, Liz Kormos, Ray Otten, Stacy Simmons and Kris Williams

There was no formal Agenda for this meeting. It was run as a free form discussion.

Liz announced at the top of the meeting that Stacy is now the chair of the board and it was agreed that Stacy will continue as secretary and maintain the minutes. Liz will continue to schedule the meetings.

Liz updated the board that our Arbor Day celebration will need to be postponed (date TBA) due to the ongoing restrictions of COVID-19. The village was approved for the CDTC grant for trails, bike paths etc in the village. She is still waiting to hear about the DEC grant. Kris will inquire with the state regarding the grant status.

Ray shared that the Rotary Cleanup Day for May 2nd has been cancelled due to COVID-19.

Wiswall Park plans are currently at a stand-still. Liz said she could work on a grant if she could get rough numbers to work with for a budget. Ray is going to contact Pete Benfey to see what can possibly be worked up.

Stacy brought up the topic of board members keeping an eye on the parks for damage, graffiti, needed improvements, etc. Ray shared that Pete Champagne is working on a Rotary project to perform repairs, paving and other cosmetic work at Kelley Park. Stacy asked if the trails at Kelley Park will be included for the CDTC grant; Judy shared that the John Romano Trail is maintained by the Friends of The Kayaderosso group who are also planning to make improvements. Liz and Judy commented on the repair needed for the stairs of The Tedisco Trail; Liz will talk to Jeff/DPW regarding this. Liz and Judy plan to walk the parks soon to see what is possibly needed.

Kris shared info regarding guidelines for tree selection for the village- wide diversity, right plant right place, awareness of disease issues and invasives. The discussion moved to the Lindens by Henry's Tavern- they have been given approval to remove the trees. Kris and Stacy will confer on list of trees that would be suitable for the village.

Ed spoke about the Old Iron Spring and how the Lions Club has been washing off or painting over any graffiti as it happens. There are tree stumps that need to be addressed. He is looking forward to music in the park and that there should be no problem with social distancing for 100 people in attendance.

Next meeting will be May 19, 2020 at 7pm most likely via Zoom.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:46pm

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Simmons