

DEXTER VILLAGE TREE BOARD
September 27, 2005
Regular Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. at the Village Offices, 8123 Main Street.

Present: Coy, Henes, Peters, Hansen, Bishop

Approval of the Minutes- No minutes

Approval of Agenda-First meeting, no official agenda. September 26, 2005 memorandum.

Public Hearings

None

Citizens Wishing to Address the Commission

None

Reports and Communication

None

Old Business

None

New Business

Welcomed Board members. Brainstorming session about goals, objectives of the Tree Board and development of the tree Master Plan. Major discussion items were how to guide Council on budgeting, tree removal, tree replacement, DPW training for tree maintenance, identifying areas in the village that need improvements. One of the major concerns of the Board was ensuring that there is a level of knowledge / follow-up when trees are planted, i.e. watering, trimming, pruning.

The Board also discussed the Tree Inventory and discussed the species distribution list that was included with the packet. It was noted that over 50% of the trees in the Village are some variety of Maple.

The Board began discussions about areas in the village that deserve trees and identified several. The Board discussed that the program should be equal throughout the village and should be separated into the following areas when portioning where trees are planted: Residential new, Residential old, commercial areas and arterial streets.

The Board discussed the Dextech donation of \$10,000. It was discussed that the donation was to be used along Dan Hoey Road and Baker Road (within the LDFA?)

The Board discussed as part of the Master Plan to develop a public education program to ensure that residents know how to take care of and maintain trees. The Board suggested using the newsletter as a way to educate on trees and watering and the benefits of trees in a community.

The Board discussed concentrating plantings in certain areas initially so that residents can see the tree program at work.

The Board discussed initial areas of focus and identified the following: Entrances to the village, especially north (Central Street) and south (Baker Road) entrances. More specifically Gilberts, Cider Mill, Mugg and Bopps, Colorbok, and the school property.

The Board discussed when trees should be planted, preferring the spring because a majority of street trees plant better in the spring. The Board discussed recommending that all funds be restricted to spring plantings.

- Moved Coy, support Hansen, Tree Board recommends that remaining funds out of the tree planting fund be used for the 2006 spring planting. The Tree Board recommends a spring planting for the following reasons: better survival with spring plantings, wider selection/variety of species available in the spring, the probability of successful establishment is far greater, and best horticultural practices recommend that trees be planted in the spring.
Voice Vote – Unanimous Motion Carried

The Board discussed the need to take some money from the tree budget for trimming and pruning, must have funding to maintain. ¼ of budget should be towards maintenance. The Village must always have contracted tree maintenance, must train staff for more routine maintenance and budget must be more than \$5000.

The Board also discussed tree grant programs such as DTE, Tree City USA, and Arbor Day, in addition to the programs offered by the state through the EAB grant and the Community Forestry Grant.

The Board requested that maps of the village be provided so that visual inventories can be taken of the village to determine areas that are void of trees. The Board also requested maps showing dots of existing trees.

Prior to the next meeting the Board members were going to do a visual inventory of the village, including the entrances (north and south), from Kensington to the Mobil Station, and the school frontage.

Citizens Wishing To Address The Commission

None

Agenda Items For The Next Meeting

- A. Bylaws
- B. Elections
- C. Brainstorming/Visions/Goals for Master plan
- D. Review maps/areas of focus

Adjournment

- Moved Coy support Henes, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 P.M.
Voice Vote: Unanimous Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Filing Approved __10-18-05__

Allison Bishop
Community Development Manager