Village of Northport
Tree Committee Minutes
September 17, 2024

Members present: Bob Newell, Jane Gale
Public present: None

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 AM

Old Business
Bottle and can collection will continue through October 1. Signs have been posted and social media messaging has been used to notify the public of the plan. Bob estimates he has several hundred more dollars worth of returnables. Bay Area Recycling for Community will collect returnables at UnCaged and deliver them to Bob for cleaning, sorting and returning for deposits.

Township collaboration continues to focus on the cemetery. Bob has been working with Township Facilities Manager Ian Dawkins. He is looking to replace 12 damaged or dangerous trees that will be taken down this year. The proposed planting site is along the east side of the cemetery drive (an unpaved extension of Warren) north of 8th Street.

New Business
Bob was approached by Anne Harper about four streetscape trees on the south side of Nagonaba and east of Waukazoo that are not thriving. These trees are not on the storm water box system because, at the time they were planted, the water table was so high boxes were not necessary. Bob and DPW will place gaiters in the spring to ensure adequate water next year. Anne also would like us to consider a new willow on E 4th to replace one that was removed. Bob determined the trunk is sprouting and a cutting could be used. Red maple is another species that would work at this site. DPW is interested in replacing willows in the waterfront parks that are aging and need pruning.

The Tree City renewal process is underway. Bob is also preparing an annual report for the Planning Commission and Village Council.

At Bob's request, John Woomer and Jim Dyer have placed a discussion item on the Planning Commission agenda to begin thinking about a 5 ro 6-year reforestation plan to include funding sources. With PC support, Bob will talk with Township Supervisor Mike McMillan about formal collaboration between Village and Township on the reforestation plan. Both parties want to clarify responsibilities for maintenance and planting as well as budget contribution. One element of the plan might be a mixed species arboretum planting in a cemetery. Bob plans to consult with the Traverse City Parks Department for help selecting varieties that are compatible and resistant to infestations.

The October 15 meeting will be the final meeting of 2024. The committee will resume meeting in March to plan Arbor Day activities.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:38 A.M.

Submitted by,
Jane Gale