

## Tree City Committee Minutes February 2, 2015

Becky Gussel called the meeting to order in the Wisconsin Dells Municipal Building at 4:20 PM. Other members present: Shirley Tollaksen, Dave Holzem, and Debbie Kinder. Dar Mor was absent. Fred Westerfeldt, Chris Tollaksen, Sandy Braun, and Ed Legge of the *Wisconsin Dells Events* were also present.

Minutes of the December 8, 2014 meeting were approved as read on a motion by Shirley, seconded by Becky.

Sandy reported that 65 letters were sent to property owners who have ash trees on their tree banks. The templates for the letters, which were discussed at the December meeting, were personalized by Shirley, Becky, and Debbie and sent to Sandy. She checked, corrected some errors, and mailed the letters on December 29. In the letters, property owners were advised of the recommendations for their trees made by a certified arborist in September of 2014. If they did not want to follow the arborist's advice, they were directed to contact the public works office by January 15, 2015. Dave reported that he has received about 20 questions/objections which have been entered into a database.

Chris will work from the revised database to update the inventory and map. Dave's crews will begin cutting trees between snowstorms. The committee recommended that property owners be contacted before their trees are cut.

A Tribute Tree has been purchased by Andrea Gussel in memory of Taylor Jayne. The coralburst crabapple will be planted near the basketball court in Bowman Park on Arbor Day, April 24, 2015. Arbor Day will also be celebrated as the theme of the Dells Delton Community Supper on April 28. Shirley, Becky, and Debbie will work on more ideas for the celebration.

Debbie suggested that we start thinking of plans for the Urban Forestry Grant she will write for on October 1, 2015. She is hoping to buy trees to replace ash trees which the property owners don't want to purchase. This item will be on the agenda for future meetings.

Our next meeting will be March 2 at 4 PM. The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 on a motion by Debbie, seconded by Shirley.