



## Village of Perry Tree Board Meeting Minutes

Sept 2, 2026, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Meeting location: Village of Perry Hall

**Present:** Dan Zerbe (chairman), Joel Bouchard, Jules Hoepting (secretary), Robin Redding, Felisa McKay, Brandon Allers, Jon Bouchard, Steve Deaton. **Absent:** Sandy Lawrence, Laurie White.

### 1.) 2026 PoeTree Update

- Committee: Felisa McKay, Robin Redding, Sandy Lawrence, and Brandon Allers
- *Any changes for this year?* This year, a certificate was presented to the school principal. It is suggested that next year a certificate can be given to recognize a teacher. Last day of school is June 25, 2027.
- For prizes we have 6 of the books "Agatha Livermore Planted a Tree" signed by Judi Jessick, or 3 spruces left.
- Repeat the themes for the different grades from last year.
- Next steps: reach out to the principal of the school.



### 2.) Arbor Day, Saturday, June 12th? - Joel to obtain the declaration.

- 2 memorial trees are being planted in memory of Rose Mary Givens at 32 Dolbeer. Yoshino Cherry and a 'Tupelo Tower' Black Tupelo.
- Plan to host the belated Arbor Day celebration the day after the PoeTree ceremony, as that seemed to get a bigger turn out in the past.
- Celebrities can meet at Memorial Park, maybe walk to Dolbeer for the memorial tree portion of the ceremony.

### 3.) Schichtel Nursery trip with Jim Kisker reflections.

- Impactful trip! Most of the trees the nursery had were grafted.
- Had 900 acres, 19 farms
- Not many employees, 5-6 full time, plus a visa program for seasonal employees
- They don't stake trees for more than 2 years because it hinders tree growth. If a tree is used to relying on a support, it will think its trunk is stronger than it actually is and have a harder time when the stake is removed.
- Deer fence around all the fields to prevent damage.

4.) Garden Club talk completed.

- Tuesday, July 14, at 10:30 a.m., the Garden Club hosted Dan to talk about how the Perry Tree Board selects trees at 2072 Simmons Road, Perry. \$60 honorarium was donated to our Tree Board fund.
- Plans to post the article "Tree Village Lessons Learned at 10 years" on the Tree Board web page.
- The Tree Board discussed meeting up with a nearby tree board like Warsaw (Jim Carter) or Geneseo (Daniel Hayes). Maybe meet at the shelter at the Perry Village Park and look at the trees in the park. Could potentially do a joint fieldtrip.

5.) Supplies:

- Degradable Ground cloth with fibrous backing arrived.
- Plastic ground cloth may girdle trees, so we want to try something degradable.

6.) Next Planting Location Plans for Fall 26, Spring 27.

- Order for 60 bareroot trees was placed on August 7 (half in fall, half in spring). Several new varieties are available such as Blackberry Mountain Ash, Paw Paw.
- There is discussion about putting a Paw Paw tree in a wet area in a lesser known village property at 39 Leicester (called Jones Park by VoP staff, see aerial image on following page).
- Need to get second letters out. Dan will submit to the village office the following.
- We have a couple of optional backup locations.
  - 28 Bradford has room for a second large. no traffic
  - 21 Hope could fit second near fruit street
  - 121 N. Center St. could fit a 5th if some blacktop of the ditch edge is removed
  - 100 S Main (replacement) hornbeam may regenerate, but backup an option
  - For fall, the spring locations can be used for backups.
  - Covington locations have been picked but no letters sent yet.
- There have been more requests to have trees planted this year than ever before!
- Fruit tree opportunities discussed.
- Two trees removed from 218 South Main because it blocked vision when exiting driveway, the trees were transplanted then died. Because of the powerlines, short trees would need to go there.



### Fall 26 Order

|                           |                                                            |               |                                                       |            |                            |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| Bradford                  | 5 Bradford                                                 | 1             | very small                                            | old letter | Judy Zuk Magnolia Tree     |
| Bradford                  | 12 Bradford                                                | 1             | large                                                 | old letter | Shawnee Brave Bald Cypress |
| Bradford                  | 17 Bradford                                                | 1             | small                                                 | old letter | Blackberry Mountain Ash    |
| Bradford                  | 23 Bradford                                                | 1             | small                                                 | old letter | Japanese Stewartia         |
| Bradford                  | 28 Bradford                                                | 2             | large, (1st of two, further from house)               | old letter | Chinese Chestnut           |
| Center N                  | 121 N. Center St. (old IGA)                                | (or 5) 4      | medium conical, possibly 5 if blacktop can be removed | letter     | Village Green Zelkova      |
| Center N                  | 121 N. Center St. (old IGA)                                | 4th (up to 5) | smallest                                              |            | Nannyberry Viburnum        |
| Center N. (Stainton side) | 61 N. Center on Stainton side (second) (other is in front) | 1             | small                                                 | letter     | Beijing Gold Tree Lilac    |

|            |                                                                                    |                 |                                             |                                    |                                 |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Dolbeer    | Dolbeer 28                                                                         | 1               | Small                                       | letter                             | Beijing Gold Tree Lilac         |
| Dolbeer    | Dolbeer 32, memory of Rosemary Givens, spring planting                             | 2               | med, second of 2                            | letter, donated                    | Yoshino Cherry                  |
| Dolbeer    | second Dolbeer 32                                                                  |                 | med                                         | donated, memory of Rosemary Givens | Tupelo Tower Black Tupelo       |
| Federal N. | 3 N. Federal - in front of house (first of two, other in front of hedge in spring) | (one of 2)      | medium or large                             | letter                             | Ruby Red Horse Chestnut         |
| Federal N. | N. Federal 23                                                                      | 1               | Large                                       | letter                             | Black Alder                     |
| Federal N. | N. Federal 36                                                                      | 1               | Small, request 1st redbud, 2nd mountain ash | letter, 1-Redbud, 2-Mountain Ash   | Rise 'N Shine Redbud            |
| Hawthorne  | 23 Hawthorne (removal)                                                             | 1               | large                                       | letter                             | Paul's Scarlet Hawthorn         |
| Hope       | Hope 9                                                                             | 1 of 2          | Medium or large                             | letter                             | Spaeth Alder                    |
| Hope       | second tree Hope 9 property after 1 square of new sidewalk                         | 1 of 2          | medium or large                             |                                    | Fire & Fury Kentucky Coffeetree |
| Hope       | Hope 17                                                                            | 1               | Small                                       | letter                             | Blackberry Mountain Ash         |
| Hope       | Hope 21                                                                            | 1 or 2 (backup) | Small, mahy have room for a second?         | letter                             | Wildfire Black Tupelo           |
| Hope       | Hope 39                                                                            | 1               | Small                                       | letter                             | Skybound Mountain Ash           |
| Leicester  | 39 Leicester village forest                                                        | 1               | any                                         | (Village Property)                 | Wells Pawpaw                    |
| Main S.    | 135 S. Main St. (1st of two). In front of magnolia (narrow)                        | 2               | small                                       | letter                             | Lindsey's Skyward Bald Cypress  |
| Main N     | 86 N.Main St.                                                                      | 2               | small, replace redbuds                      | request, no letter                 | European Snowball Viburnum      |
| Main N.    | second at 86 N. Main St. front (towards Main)                                      |                 | small, replace redbuds                      | request, no letter                 | Olympic Flame Mountain Ash      |
| Main N.    | 175 N. Main St.                                                                    | 1               | large                                       | letter                             | Shawnee Brave Bald Cypress      |
| Main N.    | 177 N. Main St.                                                                    | 1               | large                                       | letter                             | Green Gable Black Tupelo        |

|                         |                                                                    |                      |                                        |                                             |                                              |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Main N                  | 192 N. Main<br>(Replacement dead<br>Galilean Dogwood)              | 1                    | small/med                              | letter                                      | Orange Quince                                |
| Park or 39<br>Leicester | Park Wet area near<br>where willow will be,<br>North pavilion lawn | 1                    | or else 39<br>Leicester                | not at<br>Cucumber tree<br>(Aspen<br>there) | Paw Paw KSU Atwood                           |
| Tuna                    | 10 Tuna St. (unplanted)                                            | 1                    | small                                  | send<br>another<br>letter                   | Burgundy Vase Zelkova                        |
| Water                   | 62 Water Street (died)<br>(might be spring order)                  | 1<br>(contain<br>er) | small,<br>Adirondack<br>Crabapple died |                                             | Tokyo Tower' Columnar<br>Chinese Fringe Tree |
| Watkins                 | 29 Watkins (unplanted)                                             | 1                    | small wide                             | send<br>another<br>letter                   | Eddie's White Wonder<br>Dogwood              |

### Spring 26 Order

|          |                                          |                                                           |                                             |                          |                                  |
|----------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Benedict | 36 Benedict (removal)                    | 1                                                         | med/small<br>Japanese lilac<br>or flowering | requested                | Japanese Tree Lilac              |
| Bradford | 22 Bradford                              | 1                                                         | very large                                  | old letter               | Whitebarked Himalayan<br>Birch   |
| Bradford | 27 Bradford                              | 1                                                         | small                                       | old letter               | Roya; Burgundy Cherry            |
| Bradford | 16 Bradford                              | 1                                                         | large                                       | old letter               | Columnar English Oak             |
| Callahan | 7 Callahan 2nd tree<br>request           |                                                           | any<br>serviceberry                         | requested<br>, no letter | Standing Ovation<br>Serviceberry |
| Callahan | 7 Callahan                               | 2, Pink<br>Flair<br>Sargent<br>or any<br>serviceb<br>erry | Pink Flair                                  | requested<br>, no letter | Pink Flair Cherry                |
| Center N | 121 N. Center St. (old<br>IGA)           | 1 of 4<br>(or 5)                                          | 5 if blacktop can<br>be removed             |                          | Courageous Crabapple             |
| Center N | 61 N. Center front<br>(Stainton removal) | 1                                                         | large                                       | letter                   | Purple Leaved English<br>Oak     |
| Center N | 121 N. Center St. (old<br>IGA)           | 1 of 4<br>(or 5)                                          | 5 if blacktop<br>can be<br>removed          |                          | Scotch Elm                       |
| Dolbeer  | Dolbeer 11                               | 1                                                         | Large                                       | letter                   | Waasland Dawn Redwood            |

|           |                                                  |    |                                     |                                                     |                                |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Dolbeer   | 62 Dolbeer St.                                   | 1  | large, chestnut oak?                | requested (to eventually replace the maple          | K.B. Crystal Oak               |
| Dolbeer   | Dolbeer 16                                       | 1  | Large                               | letter                                              | Crimson Spire Oak              |
| Dolbeer   | Dolbeer 33                                       | 1  | Small                               | letter, 1-Thornless Black locust or 2- Honey Locust | Purple Robe Black Locust       |
| Dolbeer   | Dolbeer 34                                       | 1  | Large                               | letter                                              | American Sentry                |
| Federal N | N. Federal 17                                    | 1  | Large                               | letter                                              | Summer Shimmer Trembling Aspen |
| Federal N | N. Federal 9                                     | 1  | Medium or large                     | letter, Northern Red Oak or any other shady tree    | Cobblestone Bur Oak            |
| Federal N | N. Federal 3                                     | 2  | Medium or large - in front of hedge | letter                                              | Streetspire Oak                |
| Gardeaou  | 65 Gardeau St. (Medical center removal)          | 1  | large                               | letter                                              | American Sentry Linden         |
| Hope      | Hope 27                                          | 1  | Small                               | letter                                              | Skinny Genes Oak               |
| Hope      | Hope 5                                           | 1  | Large                               | letter                                              | Bald Cypress                   |
| Leicester | 2 Leicester St. 67 feet from corner Betula Nigra |    | betula nigra                        | requested , no letter                               | River Birch                    |
| Main N    | 21 N. Main masonic temple dead elm               | 1? | large, narrow                       | letter                                              | Kindred Spirit Oak             |
| Main N    | 34 N. Main St. dead zylcova                      | 1  | large narrow, Ginkgo? or tupelo     | narrow                                              | Regal Prince Oak               |
| Main N    | 179 N. Main St.                                  | 1  | large                               | letter                                              | Purple Leaved English Oak      |
| Main S.   | 137 S. Main St.                                  | 1  | Small                               | letter                                              | Emerald Spire                  |
| Main S.   | 135 S. Main St. (2nd                             |    | small further                       |                                                     | Amur Chokecherry               |

|                        |                                              |   |                                                      |                       |                       |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|                        | tree, further south)                         |   | south                                                |                       |                       |
| Park by North Pavilion | Village Park (replacement of weeping poplar) | 2 | Large, replace the willow                            | no letter             | Golden Weeping Willow |
| Park Pond              | Park Pond (replacement)                      | 1 | large                                                | replace Cucumber tree | InnovaTree Poplar     |
| Water                  | Water St. dead larch                         | 1 | Bald Cypress?                                        |                       | Bald Cypress          |
| Watrous                | 71 Watrous request, Linda Chapek             | 1 | large but request syringa reticulata on Watrous side | requested, no letter  | Japanese Tree Lilac   |

#### 7.) Monthly Tree Scavenger Hunt.

- May-June was the Catalpa hunt. We had a winning submission from Blake and Jade Russell and Lena and Chris Sank who were awarded at the Arbor Day celebration (redbud and Manchurian ash)
- Other hunt ideas were Japanese Lilac for July, Dawn Redwood for August, other ideas include Maackias, London Planes.
- Thinking of giving the scavenger hunts a rest for the year, may revisit in spring.

#### 8.) Tree Removals and Assessments

- 7 Andrus
- *Should we give more input in removals again?* Discussion about if the Village should inform the Tree Board the reasoning behind cutting down trees as residents bring their questions to us and it is our role in the tree law to ensure removals are needed and that they are replaced.

#### 9.) Landmark Tree Policy

- We had an inquiry about if we have a landmark or historical tree policy by Josh Knapp.
- Based on our Tree Law, a draft policy is created:
  - [w Landmark Tree Application Village of Perry Tree Board.docx](#)
- Do we have any trees we want to nominate? (None came to mind.)
- The board decided it was a good idea to have a landmark tree application available but did not think it would come up very often.

#### 10.) Work Evenings

- Continue meeting Wednesday evenings at 6:30 until fall planting is complete.
- Continue to mulch. Replace umbrella pine box. Select suckers at Bank and at 100 S. Main. Prepare October walk. Prune sidewalks on Elm and Walnut St. Bridge. Prune suckers Leicester, Church St. Cherry,
- Prune dead branches while in leaf, festival plaza parking lot.
- Treat Tree of Heaven at Water and Gardeau St. corner.
- Walk by section to retag the trees?

11.) How to make people excited and educated about trees?

- "Trick or Tree!" in the Hope CemeTree! Wednesday, 28 at 6:30-8 p.m. The group was very excited about this.
  - Could use sticks and leaves to make masks.
  - Tree-themed food: Maple candy and root beer
  - Find a short spooky poem
  - Show off some galls on leaves
  - Have a station with leaves that have clues on them and flashlights
  - Black light flashlight?
  - Offer glowsticks to kids for something fun that also promotes safety. Glowsticks could also be used to mark different sections of the cemetery.
  - Advertise on Facebook
  - Will need to do a walkaround to look for potential issues with hosting a program in the dark, like exposed roots.
- Could create a PoeTree challenge for older demographics. The required syllables of the poems could correspond with how tall an individual tree is. Could possibly work in geocache tags. Brandon is interested in coordinating.
- Facebook Calling for Photography. Community members (and tree board members) are invited to take photos of trees throughout the year so we have images to use on the digital map. Eg., take a picture showing the budding, flowers, bark, branching etc. or changes through the year.
  - So far it has not been the most successful. Brandon suggested the cadets he works with could take pictures of the trees.

12.) Notes about incoming money.

- Checks used to be written to "Perry Tree Board" but have been written to the "Village of Perry" within the last few years.
- Will confirm preference about where money goes. Perry Tree Board is a trusted agency account which is used for PoeTree prizes, could also be used for additional supplies for memorial events or for memorial tags. The cost of the trees is generally  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the memorial donation. Joel will talk to Sam about allocation of donations.

13.) Tree City USA reapplication. Joel.

14.) Next Meeting -

- Dec. 2, Wednesday 7 p.m.