

Whitehouse Tree Commission Minutes of Meeting – March 22, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Sheri Luedtke at 7:00 PM. Members Present: Chairperson, Sheri Luedtke, Amy Schultz, Michelle Tippie, Dianne Toffler, Janet Traub, Chris Manzey, Elliot Tramer, Staff Representative, Mark Thomas, guests: Terri and Rick Callahan.

After some spelling corrections, Elliot Tramer moved to accept the minutes of the February 22, 2018 meeting as corrected. Chris Manzey seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Arbor Day Planning - Sheri hasn't been able to contact the third grade teacher with whom she sets up the elementary student part of the celebration. She will proceed assuming events can be done as they were last year. The Whitehouse Arbor Day celebration will be on the first Friday in May, the 4th at 2:00 or 2:15 pm. The rain date will be the next Monday, the 7th.

Sheri will provide third grade teachers with tree-related videos on a memory stick. She will also provide them with story starters, tree scenarios to start them on writing tree-oriented stories.

Sheri will also contact Karen Gerhardinger from the Mirror to encourage them to cover the event. Mark has ordered 200 bare root Norway spruces from Soil and Water to hand out to the children. Sheri plans to attend at least the May Flower Market for the Tree Commission and hand out remaining trees to the public.

The site planned for the Arbor Day trees is by the walking trail along the north side of Stiles Rd. Members decided to ask Mark to request Ohio Buckeye, American Beech, and Basswood (*Tilia americana*) for the planting. At present, the trees there are various oak species.

Review Tree Ordinance - Members read the ordinance and did not find any items needing change.

Tree Inventory - Mark reported the Village has had 33 trees installed with three more to be set in within a few days. An unedited list of the locations is as follows: 6936 Providence - Frontier elm, 6332 Jamesbrook - London planetree, 9625 Newbury - Freeman maple, 6336 Whitehouse Valley - three of the following Red Jewel crabapple, thornless cockspur hawthorn, 6393 Whitehouse Valley - three from: Adirondack crabapple, Red Jewel crabapple, 6426 Whitehouse Valley - Adirondack crabapple, 10965 and 10975 Wildflower - Kentucky coffeetrees, 10349 and 10370 Blue Ridge South - hedge maples, 6363 Sydney - 2 Kentucky coffeetrees, 6422 and 9829 Julianna - bald cypresses, 6365 Julianna - honey locust, 10638 Saron - thornless cockspur hawthorn, 10263 and 10343 Blue Ridge South - red horsechestnuts,, 10956 Toledo - European beech, 10950 Waterville - blackgum, 11317 Waterville - bur oak, 10112 Saddlebridge - dawn redwood, 11048 Centerville - Kentucky coffeetree, 11052 Villa Ct. - London plane tree, 7023 Whiddenmill - hackberry, 6939 and 6945 Westwyck - tulip trees, 10805 Toledo - white oak, 10805 Toledo - 2 tulip trees.

Forms and Documents - Janet checked the Village website and the Tree Planting Master Plan posted there is now the most recent version.

Tree Commission Academy - For hosting the upcoming Sophomore class, the lunch will be at Hope United Methodist normal Wednesday community lunch on April 4 and Whitehouse will make a contribution of about \$5 for each class participant eating there. Other provisions were finalized for snacks and salads. For Thursday April 5, Sheri will go to Kroger to pick up a long

sub to cut up, plus water. Dianne will provide a salad, muffins, and popcorn. We will have doughnut holes for the morning greeting.

New Business:

Visitors Terri and Rick Callahan live at 10343 Blue Ridge South. In accordance with the Tree Planting Master Plan, a red horsechestnut has been set in the tree lawn there. The Callahans are disappointed in the tree species, which they feel will grow too tall and will be messy, dropping horsechestnuts in the fall while not providing any fall beauty. They saw their nearby neighbors received maples and requested that the section planned for maples be extended a little to include their frontage. Commissioners discussed how we planned for the biggest possible tree suited to site conditions, and that the methodic alternation of species and genera were main tenets of the tree selection process that resulted in the tree plan. For Village property, it is important to minimize tree expenditures by planting long-lived, large, trees and to break species continuity fairly often to present barriers against tree disease and prevent weaknesses propagating themselves. The Callahans also feel the tree was installed way too early in the improvement of their lot, which has not received its final landscaping and finishing. In the treelawn there are still rocks and rubble, for example. It's not clear that the unfinished state of the terrain will hurt the vigor of the new tree. Mark mentioned that the installation of that tree is not quite complete as far as fixing it with a Gator bag. He will discuss their concerns with Service Director Steve Pilcher to get the Village's decision on how to handle their complaints.

Attendance for Tree City Ceremonies - Amy, Mark, Janet, Sheri, Chris and Elliot confirmed they will attend the Upper Sandusky ceremonies on Wednesday, April 18. Sheri will check with Judy Kethel to see if she will attend. The group will meet at 8 am at the Village Hall parking lot.

Memorial Tree Conflict - A memorial tree requested to be set at 10805 Toledo St., which was requested to be a golden chain tree, was not planted due to public safety concerns. Information was provided the Tree Commission that the beans in the pods are poisonous. The site is the very busy area of the farmers' market. Sheri will contact the original contributing business and suggest a substitute. She will suggest a lacebark elm, Princeton Century elm or Celebration maple and let Mark know to order whichever the company selects.

Sheri is ordering a couple more official shirts for Tree Commission Members.

Amy Schultz moved adjournment, and Elliot Tramer seconded, and at 8:30 pm. the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Traub