

Whitehouse Tree Commission
Minutes of Meeting, June 28, 2018

Commissioners present: Chairperson Sheri Luedtke, Chris Manzey, Amy Schultz, Michelle Tippie, Elliot Tramer, Janet Traub. Guests: Marc Metzger; Mike Bayer (Bayer Tree Service)

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. The minutes of the May 24, 2018 meeting were approved (moved: Michelle Tippie; 2d Janet Traub)

Old Business:

Fall newsletter: Michelle Tippie agreed to draft an article on proper planting and mulching of young trees.

Master Plan Updates: New residential developments are going in on Steeplechase, at the "Preserve" on Texas Street, and on Heller Road off Whitehouse-Archbold. The Tree Commission (TC) has not received landscaping plans for any of these projects. Concern was expressed about contractors' activities that may harm or kill large trees at these sites. New plantings should be consistent with the existing master plan. TC agreed to meet to tour these sites in July.

Tree Inventory: No report. Sheri will ask Mark Thomas about the Golden Rain tree that was to be planted for the Beauty Shop.

Forms and Documents: See below under New Business; two items will be filed.

New Business:

August educational event: Ashlee Decker of The Nature Conservancy has agreed to give a presentation on the Green Ribbon Initiative, which seeks to preserve the unique habitats of the Oak Openings region by enhancing public awareness. The event will be held at the Village Hall and open to all residents of the area; TC will provide refreshments. Sheri will give Ashlee two dates to choose from, August 23 and 30. If she comes on August 23 at 7:00, the regular August TC meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. Copies of communications with Ashlee will be filed in our cabinet.

Summer conclave at Woodlawn Cemetery: Chris reported on the Summer Conclave given jointly by Stephanie Miller of ODNR Division of Forestry and Amy Stone of OSU Lucas County Extension Service. Tree identification was the main subject. Woodlawn is now designated an arboretum, and all the trees are tagged; tags include QR codes to enable people to use their phones to look up detailed information on each tree. Discussion ensued re: something similar along our bike path that would be a good public educational service and growth award project.

Chris also showed a large “Trees for Bees” poster that, once laminated and mounted, can be displayed at our Saturday morning farmers’ markets and elsewhere. It was produced by the Lucas County Soil & Water Conservation office.

Invasives removal project: Janet has exchanged emails with Annie Devine, Metroparks volunteer coordinator, re: the second round of invasive removals along the edge of the large quarry. There is no issue with our continuing to do this, once again with the aid of University of Toledo Environmental Science students provided by Dr. Todd Crail. Janet will work with Dr. Crail to choose a date in September, probably a weekend. Last year the Toledo Zoo used some brush cleared by the metroparks as animal food. Elliot will contact Kent Bekker at the zoo to see if they are interested in having the materials we remove.

Janet brought a detailed soil map of Whitehouse (data from the Lucas County Engineer’s office). Elliot and Chris are using it temporarily; ultimately it will be deposited in the TC cabinet.

Sheri has potted the 20 remaining spruce saplings. These will be given away at the Farmers’ market beginning in mid-July.

Adjournment at 7:48 p.m. (Moved Amy Schultz, 2d Chris Manzey).

Respectfully submitted,

Elliot Tramer