

Whitehouse Tree Commission

Minutes of October meeting: October 25, 2018

Members present: Sheri Luedtke (Chair), Amy Schultz, Christine Manzey, Dianne Toffler, Elliot Tramer, Janet Traub, Mark Thomas (Public Works Representative , Had to come late due to a water main break) , Rebecca Conklin-Kleiboemer.

Sheri called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. The minutes of the previous meeting (September 27, 2018) were approved as printed. Moved by Janet and seconded by Elliot.

Old Business-

Elliot is sending the application and description of points for the Tree City Growth Award to Stephanie Miller, Regional Urban Forester. Stephanie will clarify description of points submitted. It was noted that the Growth Award points are covered and Whitehouse Tree Commission should be above and beyond what is needed.

Discussion was held concerning the project of removing invasive species around the Quarry. Janet Traub was the coordinator and it was noted that she did a great job in getting the University students, the Metroparks personnel and the tree commission members together on the project.

Tim Gallagher from Metroparks trained the tree commission members concerning safety measures using herbicide applicators. Applicators were borrowed from Nature Conservancy. Herbicide was provided from Metroparks.

Todd Crail, from University of Toledo, coordinator of students working on learning hours. The students helped with the removal of the invasive species.

Janet added that this was a successful project with a thank you to Metroparks and UT students.

Tree Inventory: Mark offered information that now the weather is cooler North Branch will start balling their trees for planting. Also noted a branch covering the sidewalk near, "Share Our Grounds" coffee house, was removed. The branch was covering the public sidewalk.

Forms and Documents: Janet has a report of hours spent on invasive project. That will be placed in the locked cupboard. Also placed in the cupboard is a laminated poster on Pollinators.

New Business: Janet suggested that the handbook given out regarding applying herbicide safely be placed in the locked cabinet also for future use.

Louann Artiaga from the library board asked for help in removing over growth and invasive near the library. Elliot suggested using orange paint to clearly mark trees to be removed. Elliot will contact Louann about this.

The commissioners were contacted by a resident at 10638 Saron Lane. The White Swamp Oak in their tree lawn is in very poor shape. Resident has been trying to take care of it but they are unhappy with the tree. Sheri will take picture of the tree and get more information regarding the tree.

On November 28 we will be having the Tree Commission Academy senior year. The classroom is being used in the afternoon by a different group. It was decided to set up everything in Council Chambers and not use the classroom at all.

The tree Commission Academy graduation details were discussed. Clarification is needed on what Whitehouse Tree Commissioners are responsible for.

The tree that fell in down town area was on private property. Numerous houses were without power for 6 hours.

Rebecca Conklin-Kleiboemer regrets that she cannot continue to be a representative to the tree commission from council. She has a schedule conflict. A replacement will be appointed by the mayor after the first of the year. It was acknowledged that Mrs. Kleinboemer was an informative and positive contributor.

A pine tree in Rupp Cemetery is in decline. Edward Jones has asked for its removal. Options are being considered. Union board will make final decision. The cemetery board will be dissolved.

A Rupp Road resident, who contacted the board in September regarding the ditch behind her home on the corner of Rupp Road and Cemetery Road wanted some suggestions for the ditch behind her house. The tree commission suggested several options.

Rebecca gave an update of the new toddler equipment to be placed in the Whitehouse Village Park. Location of the equipment will stay as is. Existing trees will not be a problem. There was no other business for the commission to discuss and Elliot moved the meeting be adjourned, Amy seconded. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Toffler