

## Whitehouse Tree Commission

January 24, 2019

**Attendees:** Sheri Luedtke Chair, Amy Schultz Vice-Chair, Richard Bingham Council Rep., Christine Manzey, Elliot Tramer, Mark Thomas Village Rep., and Michelle Tippie

The meeting was called to order at 19:00.

A motion to accept the November 2018 meeting minutes was made by Elliot Tramer and seconded by Christine Manzey. The motion carried unanimously.

Corrections to the contact list of Commission members were made and will be submitted to Jill Gundy for entry.

Council Representative Richard Bingham presided over the election of the 2019 Officers. Both Sheri Luedtke and Amy Schultz were willing to continue in their respective positions. A motion was made by Michelle Tippie to approve Sheri Luedtke as Chair and Amy Schultz as Vice-Chair for the 2019 term. Christine Manzey seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

### **Old Business:**

The Senior year of Tree Commission Academy took place successfully this month. The Graduation session will take place March 7<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm at the Administration Building. Sheri L. will check with Stephanie Miller from ODNR to find out what the expectations for the Commission are for this event. Final plans will be made at the February 2019 meeting.

Tree inventory: Mark T. reported that the majority of the trees purchased in the fall have been planted. There are a few that will have to wait until spring when the sidewalks and finish work have been completed in the new subdivisions. These have been dug in at the Public Works garage.

The Beauty Shop memorial tree is still not planted due to issues with the underground gas transmission line at the desired planting site. The alternate site (across from Cycle Werks) may present problems with the power lines and the Main Street revitalization. It is hoped to have a location secured for spring planting.

Forms & Docs: With the departure of Judy K. from the Commission the forms and doc. cabinet has been unattended. Sheri L. and Dianne T. reviewed its contents and Dianne T. has agreed to take up the responsibility of maintaining it. Many thanks to Dianne for her efforts.

Mr. & Mrs. Kanavel previously contacted the Commission with concerns about the replacement street tree for their property. They were not in favor of the White Swamp Oak that was designated by the Master Plan. Sheri L. contacted them by phone and she advised them that the only other option for their area would be a London Plane Tree. She provided pictures and descriptions of both species. If neither option is acceptable to them the Commission felt that nothing should be planted in that spot. The family prefers a decorative tree which they are free to plant in their front lawn outside of the tree lawn area.

### **Tree Commission 01-24-19 cont.**

Janet Traub has provided the copy of the Master Plan to Amy Schultz.

The Spring Seminar will be presented by Roger & Judy Meyers on March 28<sup>th</sup> 2019. The Tree Commission meeting will be held at 6:00 pm with the seminar following at 7:00 pm at the Administration Building. The topic will be Bees and Beekeeping.

Suggestions for advertising for the seminar were: The Village water bills, the Chamber sign, the Village sign, Amy Stone with the Master Gardeners Volunteer program through OSU, Homeowners Associations, OCVM, the Farm Bureau, the Mirror, Countryside Garden Club, and the Waterville Tree Commission.

Barb Knisley has provided contact information, and an introduction, to her Metroparks contact so that the Commission may volunteer to assist in continuing the Village participation in the Enrichment classes.

### **New Business:**

Elliot T. inquired about the brush pile behind the Whitehouse Library. He has an interested party who will assist in the removal. Elliot was provided with contact information for the library.

Christine M. reported on the Trail of Trees and the Memory Gardens on Padre Island. Each memorial tree on the Trail of Trees had a plaque with a picture of the remembered person and a paragraph about their life.

There is a national movement with regard to the Memory Gardens. This may be a project that the Commission can participate in.

The Arbor Day/Memorial trees planted along the Multi-use trail could be upgraded to a Trail of Trees. Producing a brochure with the current plantings and their designation (Arbor Day or memorial) could be a project for the Commission. Using a "q" code on the brochure that would link them to the Tree Commission link of the Village page we could provide them with the biology's and biographies of the existing trees. Elliot T. has been volunteered to write the aforementioned.

Christine M. has volunteered to produce a Photo Album/Family Tree book of the current trees.

Sheri L. has volunteered to produce the Tree City USA application for 2019. Elliot T. has agreed to process the Growth Award application for 2019. Amy S. will be apprenticing with Elliot.

The Commission discussed a desire to express their appreciation to the Village Administration for all their hard work and assistance with our projects. Nothing definitive was decided but it will be discussed further in February.

Motion to adjourn made by Amy Schultz, seconded by Elliot Tramer and unanimously approved.  
Meeting adjourned at 19:35.

Respectfully submitted by Michelle K. Tippie