

**Whitehouse Tree Commission
Virtual Meeting
February 25, 2021**

Attendees: Sheri Leudtke, Pres., Amy Schultz, Vice Pres., Christine Manzey, Elliot Tramer, Diane Toffler, Michelle Tippie, Mark Thomas, Village Rep., Richard Bingham, Council Rep., Jill Gundy, Host, and Tyler Woody, Guest representing Toledo Edison Forestry Division.

The meeting was called to order at 19:00.

A motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Amy Schultz and seconded by Elliot Tramer. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Tyler Woody, with Toledo Edison Forestry Division, suggested a partnership with the Whitehouse Tree Commission in celebrating Arbor Day this year. Toledo Edison will be willing to assist with the purchase of trees to distribute to the school children and contribute to the cost of the event. Toledo Edison also has canvas bags that they will print the Village logo on so the children can safely transport their saplings home. Jill will get him a digital copy of the logo. The bag will also contain forestry related documents that Toledo Edison provides.

Mr. Woody asked how many students to anticipate. Sheri has spoken with her AW contact and they discussed having the 3rd and 4th grade students participate since the 4th graders missed their opportunity last year due to the pandemic. That would make the approximate total of students 150.

We discussed a Live Facebook event that would include the Village Public Works department, the Tree Commission, and the Toledo Edison crew.

Once Sheri has a solid student count and a date from AW she will contact Mr. Woody and set a date for the event. It will likely be early May.

Old Business:

Facebook ideas:

Michelle T. will contact the editors of Buckeye Yard and Garden to see if we can use their vocabulary word on the Tree Commission page.

Work on a schedule to make the installation of some of the Tree Tags a Live event.

Highlight one of the Tree Tag program trees each week/month.

Develop a scavenger hunt using the Tree Tag program trees.

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Tree Inventory:

Mark stated that Steve Pilcher does not have a record of what Dan Wyatt and his class produced for the Commission. When asked if there was any information the Commission could provide that would make things easier for Public Works Steve stated that Longitude and Latitude would be helpful. The Commission will work on incorporating that into our Master Inventory reviews. Steve also stated that he would be willing to break the Village down into sectors if that would make it easier for us to conduct our review. He is also looking at the iTree software.

A discussion of Douglas W. Tallamy's book, Bringing Nature Home, suggests that the Commission may want to use the information provided in the book to guide future plantings in the Village.

No plantings or removals have taken place since the last meeting due to weather.

The Commission will need to present their choice of 3 trees at the next meeting so they can be ordered in time for the planting. The site is at the Village Park ball fields. Shade trees with minimal seed drop would be best.

There were no Forms or Documents presented at this meeting.

New Business:

Virtual Arbor Day Planning:

Reviewed during Mr. Woody's presentation at the beginning of the meeting. Sheri will get our videos to AW so they can be played for the students prior to the event.

Growth Award Projects:

Partnership with Toledo Edison for Arbor Day 2021.

Tree Tagging project.

Cemetery Project: Risk assessment.

Possible repeat submissions of the Facebook page and the Spring Seminar.

Jill G. has forwarded a document to each Commission member that breaks down the categories and their point value.

Review Tree Ordinance:

There are no changes or additions to the Tree Ordinance at this time.

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Tree Tags:

iTree provides calculations based on DBA to project the monetary benefit of the urban forest to a community.

Elliot and Christine have gathered data about 20 trees within the village and applied these calculations to them. They could also use Dirr to calculate growth rate and provide projected value. These equations could be put on the Commission Facebook page.

They have a print shop in Bowling Green that can provide 20 Coroplast cards, printed with the accumulated data, for \$240.00.

Other Business:

03-22-21 Author Speaks: Douglas W. Tallamy reviews his book Nature of Oaks. Visit the OSU Extension page and search for Author Speaks.

Suggestions for getting Commission information to the public:

The 800 email blast, Facebook, notes on water bills, notes on the new Customer Portal, Karen from The Mirror and the Electronic sign. Contact local businesses with Facebook pages and see if they will post on their page for us.

For future discussion: Elliot Tramer's Earth Day presentation.

Is there interest in increasing the size of the Tree Commission? After discussion the determination was affirmative. An invitation will be made.

A motion to adjourn was made by Diane Toffler and seconded by Elliot Tramer. The motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 19:57.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle K. Tippie