

Whitehouse Tree Commission

June 23, 2022

Present: Sheri Luedtke (Chair); Amy Schultz (Vice Chair); Elliot Tramer; Chris Manzey; Michelle Tippie; Dianne Toffler; Diane DeYonker; Mark Thomas (Public Works Rep.); Richard Bingham (Village Council Rep.)

Meeting called to order by Chair Sheri Luedtke at 7:34 pm.

Approval of minutes from May 26, 2022 were moved by Elliot Tramer and seconded by Amy Schultz with the following corrections: adding Chris Manzey's name to the members present, correcting the spelling of Elliot's name and correcting the spelling of Roger Myers name. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Update on the following activities completed since the last meeting:

Sheri gave a powerpoint presentation to the Village Council on June 7th and gave a summary of projects planned for this year. The council was very receptive and supportive as usual. The Tree City awards were turned over to Jill. There is a nice article in the Mirror.

Around 15 people attended the Bee Seminar given by Roger Myers. It was very interesting and Roger almost sold out of his honey products. Elliot remarked that Roger did a nice job and was very knowledgeable.

A. Update of the master plan.

Committee discussed how to conduct the Urban Site Index Inventory of the newer housing in the village. Also discussed complaints people have had regarding nut bearing trees. The consensus was that the larger nut producing trees should be reserved for homes without sidewalks or parks. Discussion was also conducted regarding door hangers for when trees are being planted.

The Urban Site Index Inventories will be conducted in two groups. Steeplechase and Witte Walk will be covered by Sheri, Amy and Dianne. Red Stag Court will be covered by Elliot, Chris and Diane. Michelle will accompany either group when they go out on a week-end. The surveys should be completed by the 4th week in July.

Amy will put our findings into an excel spreadsheet. Someone will reach out to Steve Pilcher to add the data to the map of the village and look into making copies for all who need it.

B. Update Tree Inventory

Five trees were taken down in the latest windstorm. Four of them were Bradford Pears at the following addresses: 10140 Saddle Bridge Dr. S; 7118 Whiddenmill Dr.; 10955 Southanne Rd.; 7272 Juneberry. The other tree was a Tulip Tree which was a memorial park tree. A homeowner expressed concerns about the Blue Spruce at 10804 Maumee St. which is experiencing needle drop. It needs to be removed.

C. Forms & Docs

We were all appreciative of the letters we received from the mayor thanking us for the work we do.

D. Facebook Ideas

Sheri outlined the items put on the page in the last month: a picture and text showing the invasiveness of Bradford/Callery pears; the bee seminar; the spotted lantern fly; and the hammerhead worm. The bricks for the Arbor Day trees have been received and placed.

New Business

Discussion was held regarding partnering with the library in the fall (Sept.?) to hold a public program covering picking the right tree for the right site; looking for good form in trees; and proper planting and mulching. This could be followed up in the spring with a young tree training program.

We also discussed the village market starting in mid-July and having information regarding trees at the market.

A motion to adjourn was moved by Amy and seconded by Dianne. Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Submitted by Diane DeYonker