

Whitehouse Tree Commission
February 23, 2023

Attendees: Sheri Luedtke Pres., Amy Schultz Vice Pres., Dianne Toffler, Diane DeYonker, Chris Manzey, Elliot Tramer, Richard Bingham Council Rep., Brian Petrell Staff Rep., Michelle Tippie

The meeting was called to order at 19:30.

A motion to accept the minutes of the January 26th meeting, as recorded, was made by Dianne Toffler and seconded by Elliot Tramer. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Tree Inventory: 335 trees were trimmed in the Steeplechase subdivision. There were a few trees that were interfered with by the homeowners. At Stockton and Rockingham 2 trees were topped. A police report was filed and the Village Legal Council has been notified. On Stallion Circle the leader limb on the tree was cut and another tree on Rockingham was pruned by the property owner.

The section of the Tree Ordinance referring to what a Street Tree is, and who is responsible for it, along with guidance on determining where the Tree Lawn is on a property, will be submitted to Village Administration for publication in the next e-newsletter and in the water bills.

Quotes were gathered to determine if treating the 3 Horse Chestnut Street Trees on Julianna Lane was a viable solution to the Grugnardinaescales fungus infestation. The lowest quote was for \$110.00 annually with no guarantee if eradicating the fungus from any of the vendors.

Dianne Toffler made a motion to recommend to Public Works that the 3 trees be removed and replaced by extending the current species listed in the Master Plan for that street. Elliot Tramer seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The Commission will review the Master Plan with regard to Horse Chestnut trees and determine if alternate species need to be entered for those locations.

Forms and documents: Nothing to add.

Facebook ideas: The section of the Village Tree Ordinance referring to Street Trees and road right of ways will be posted to the Facebook page.

New Business:

Arbor Day Planning: Tyler Woody from First Energy will provide 200 saplings for the Arbor Day event. Three First Energy employees will attend to assist in educating the students on the proper way to plant and maintain a tree. Depending on the testing schedule of the students, we are hoping to celebrate Arbor Day on the first Friday in May.

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Projects for Growth Award: Based on the “scavenger hunt” style brochure developed by the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library and Museums for their walking trails, Sheri has suggested a similar brochure incorporating the ID tags on the Village trees along the Walking Trail.

Stephanie Miller of ODNR has been contacted requesting that she give a presentation on tree planting and maintenance for homeowners. The seminar will be held in the evening in late March, early April, depending on Stephanie’s schedule. The hour-long event will be hosted by the Tree Commission and the Whitehouse Library at the library. We are waiting for a response from Ms. Miller.

The award of the Canopy Grant late last year has been held for submission as a Growth Award for 2023.

Review Tree Ordinance: Copies of the Tree Ordinance will be distributed to each Commission member for review and discussion at the March meeting.

Other issues: Steve Pilcher has asked for a list of 50 trees to be utilized in the planting of the Canopy Grant project. The following list has been provided: 4 River Birch, 4 Bitternut Hickory, 5 Shagbark Hickory, 5 Hackberry, 4 Black Walnut, 4 American Sycamore, 5 Bur Oak, 5 Swamp White Oak, 5 Chinquapin Oak, 4 Black Willow, and 5 Basswood.

Woody Warehouse in Indiana will be contacted for price and availability.

With no additional business, Dianne Toffler moved to adjourn at 20:33. Amy Schultz seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle K. Tippie