

Whitehouse Tree Commission Meeting Minutes

Minutes of meeting of January 23, 2025

Attendance: Commissioners: Amy Schultz, Chris Manzey, Elliott Tramer, Diane DeYonker, Laurie Mauro, Sheri Luedtke (non-voting member). Council Representative Steve Connelly, Staff representative James Forrest. Guest Angela Boudouris, Eric (Heller Rd resident)

- I. Meeting was called to order by Amy Schultz at 7:32 PM
- II. Minutes of November 21, 2024 Tree Commission meeting approved
- III. Members for 2025 Tree Commission were confirmed as: Amy Schultz, Elliott Tramer, Christine Manzey, Diane DeYonker, Laurie Mauro, Sheri Luedtke (non-voting), Steve Connelly (Council Representative), James Forrest (staff representative). Angela Boudouris has agreed to join Tree Commission, so her membership is to be submitted to the Village for appointment.
- IV. Elect Officers for 2025 – Elliott agreed to serve as Chair. Amy Schultz agreed to serve as Vice Chair.
- V. Minutes takers – were scheduled and appear on the attached document for the year
- VI. Old Business
 - a. Tree inventory – one third of the street trees were inventoried in 2024 and the plan to inventory one third each year was agreed upon. Another one third of street trees will be inventoried in 2025. Whitehouse received a Growth Award.
 - b. Forms and Docs – Tree Owners Manual copies were distributed to each member from the Urban Forestry Conference attended in the fall. One copy of Tree Planting, 2nd edition was provided and is to be placed into the cabinet
 - c. Facebook page – Sheri informed the Commission that she is no longer able to lead and administer the Facebook page. It was felt that members could offer ideas for FB posts and that Mark Schriefer from the Village could be asked to administer the page.
 - d. America in Bloom – James shared the plan for consideration for an America in Bloom Award – It involves a 2-day visit with consideration to Trees, History and other criteria.
 - e. Storybook walk boards – have been obtained for installation in the spring. Christine will follow-up with consideration for story selection.
- VII. New Business
 - a. Updated Master Plan – is available and a new street off of SR 295 has been added, a cul de sac – Magnolia Ln for which trees need to be planned and added.
 - b. Spring Seminar – A Rain Garden program will be offered in the spring. Diane DeYonker will ask Marilyn DuFour and Penny Bollin to lead this program. Chris Manzey is a Certified Master Rain Gardener and she can assist.

- VIII. Other Issues

a. Tree Planting question – from Eric, resident of Heller Rd. Tree was planted in his tree lawn with neither notification nor input as to species selection. A sweetgum was planted which is felt to be messier than resident would have preferred. It was agreed that the Village should resume its practice of providing door tags to inform residents of tree plantings and appropriate care for newly planted trees. Further discussion of practices for engagement with residents prior to tree plantings will be added to the February meeting agenda.

Adjournment at 8:30 PM

Respectfully, Submitted,

Laurie Mauro