

Borough of Phoenixville

Tree Advisory Commission Meeting

April 9, 2018

Attendance: Commissioners – Randy Morin, Craig Brown, Joseph Lynch; Borough Representative - Brian Watson; Volunteers - Paul Kusko, John Westerman

Action items in **bold**.

**Public Comment:**

- None.

**March Minutes Review:**

- March minutes were approved. **Craig will submit for posting to the Borough website.**

**Tree Ordinance and Manual:**

- Policy Committee voted not to move it forward yet. It is still under review. Note that the TAC has not seen the revised version yet.
- Jean made a verbal comment during the Policy Committee meeting and mentioned that he had taken feedback from the TAC and others and incorporated nearly all suggestions.
- Regarding responsibility of tree maintenance, Jean apparently edited that section to read that the responsibility will be split between the Borough and the homeowner, with the homeowner taking responsibility for keeping branches clear of right-of-ways, roads, sidewalks, etc.
- TAC will respond once a revised Ordinance proposal is provided, but there is general agreement in the TAC that if the homeowner is responsible for pruning they should still be required to have a certified arborist complete the work.

**Tree Removal and Replacement Plan:**

- TAC is still waiting for leaf-out to begin assessing tree health and developing a needed removal list.
- Randy suggests writing an article to explain the removal and replacement plan. Article will need to be submitted by July 18th. **Randy will develop a first draft and share with the TAC and Brian for editing.**
- **TAC will develop a list of needed removals by late April/early May.**
- **Joseph L. will lead the development of the first block plan for replanting (Anderson Ave. between Lincoln and Lane)?**

**Spring Tree Planting:**

- Randy sent Eric Dennis the list of sites for 1-calls.
- Brian will let the TAC know when the 1-calls have been completed.
- Planting event will be April 21st, 2018.
- TAC still needs to find a couple locations for small trees.

- **TAC will mark final locations for pre-digging by April 16th.**
- Paul has requested 2 willow oaks to be planted on Virginia Ave (850 Main and 240 Virginia). Paul will talk to Eric Schmidt about purchasing two Willow Oaks. **The Borough will plant balled trees at a later date once we acquire the trees.**

**EAB Treatment:**

- Randy got a quote for the same as last time. Estimate is \$3300.
- **Randy will proceed with the order and ask for one ash tree in Reeves Park to be added (across from the library).**

**Spotted Lanternfly:**

- Paul reached out to the Delaware River keeper about a program about SLF for the Green Team, but he still hasn't made contact.

**Collaboration with Beautification Advisory Commission:**

- TAC will contribute funds for evergreen trees in Joe Rowan Park.
- TAC will try to plant street trees during our fall planting (6-8 serviceberries) along the street in front of Joe Rowan Park.

**TAC Membership:**

- Susan Di Cercio has applied for the open position.

**Spring Inspections and Permit Applications:**

- 1215 Main Street - removal request; **TAC to reinspect**
- 470 Grant Street - Removal request; **TAC to reinspect**
- 1206 Tyler - removal request; **TAC recommends inspecting this tree in the spring.**
- 2 trees on Emmett that are extremely dangerous (Joseph)
- 253 Morgan - two small trees growing very close together
- 1222 Garfield - requesting removal of large tree with cavity
- 1277 Tyler - requesting pruning of tree due to large branches that are too close to the house
- 245 High St. - 245 High St. (corner of High and Marshall) - requesting pruning or removal of leaning tree
- 840 Main St. - requesting removal of hazardous maple tree that is falling apart
- 551 Columbia Ave - requesting pruning of low branches growing close to building
- 1205 Madison - requesting removal due to roots in yard and lifting sidewalk
- 1213 Harrison - requesting pruning of large limbs over house

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm