

Borough of Phoenixville

Tree Advisory Commission Meeting

May 14, 2018

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

Action items in **bold**.

Public Comment:

- 742 Cedar (Mark Strzelecki) - tree has caused lots of damage to his truck and sidewalk; he wants the tree to be removed; **TAC will inspect the tree and get back to him on whether removal will be recommended. If not, Mr. Strzelecki will submit a permit application for removal.**
- 544 Chester Ave. (Joan Beregi) - Ms. Beregi is concerned about the tree removals in the Presidential area; she wants to know why she wasn't notified about the tree removal at her house; many of her neighbors are also worried about losing the trees.

April Minutes Review:

- April minutes were approved and posted to the web.

Spring Inspections:

- 62 Valley Rd. - Permit Request - Re-inspect for next month. Is this 64 Valley Rd?
- 84 Second Ave. - prune out dead branches (hazard 1)
- 243 Washington Ave. - prune away from house (hazard 3)
- 245 High St. - prune away from house (hazard 3)
- 253 Morgan St. - **approve permit application** for removal of B-tree
- 402 Dayton - remove with Tree Replacement Plan funds
- 412 Park Dr. - **approve permit request** for pruning
- 511 Anderson Ave. - remove (hazard 3)
- 541 Columbia - reinspect for next month
- 538 Chester Ave. - tree is healthy; no work needed
- 840 Main St. - remove with Tree Replacement Plan funds
- 902 Woodlawn - reinspect for next month
- 1205 Madison Ave. - tree is healthy; no work needed
- 1213 Harrison Ave. - prune out dead branches (hazard 1)
- 1215 Main St. - prune away from house (hazard 1)
- 1222 Garfield - re-inspect for next month
- 1277 Tyler Ave. - prune out dead and away from house (hazard 1)

Budget and Invoices:

- Craig is working with Debbie to make sure all the invoices are being sent to the TAC. The TAC

has not seen invoices for some recent work the Borough has done.

New Tree Ordinance Draft:

- Policy Committee is discussing the tree ordinance amendment again this month.
- TAC's largest concern is the custody of the trees; are the homeowners or Borough responsible for public tree maintenance?
- Two sentences in the proposed amendment contradict one another: one statement sounds as if property owner should have responsibility and the other sounds as if the Borough should have the responsibility.
- TAC recommends removing the first statement and clarifying the second one.
- Paul also brought up several issues that the TAC agrees with.
- **Craig will draft a response to the Policy Committee.**

Tree Removal and Replacement Plan:

- Brian suggests that the Tree Replacement Plan map will be put on the Borough website soon.
- TAC is compiling a list of needed removals for 2018 (currently at about 82 trees).
- TAC discussed options for notifying residents about upcoming tree removals. Brian suggested that the Borough will be notifying residents via letters and information will be available on the website.
- TAC is working on an article that provides details about the Tree Replacement Plan for the next Borough newsletter.
- **Brian will send Joseph Lynch an email asking for details about planning a planting project on Anderson.**

Spring and Future Tree Plantings:

- No leftover trees from the Spring Planting.
- Craig brought up the need to water newly planted trees. Brian suggested that we can water after future plantings.

EAB Treatment:

- Joseph Christopher has a second arborist working up an estimate for EAB treatments.

Spotted Lanternfly:

- TAC agrees to have the speaker attend on June 11th at 7:30 pm.
- Paul and Susan will work on promoting the presentation which will be open to the public.

Collaboration with Beautification Advisory Commission:

- No update.

TAC Membership:

- Susan DiCerchio has been appointed. Welcome Susan!

June Inspections:

- 64 Valley Rd. - permit application for pruning or removal of 3 trees
- 409 Park Dr. - removal or pruning request for 3 trees
- 541 Columbia - pruning request for low branches
- 902 Woodlawn - removal request due to mold
- 1222 Garfield - removal request due to animal living inside; may not have been fully leafed out yet

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm