



TREE COMMISSION MINUTES

July 25, 2023

Present: Garrett Price, Mary McGrath, Christy Syfert, Polly Seum, Tim Miklasiewicz, Denton Kitts (Parks and Rec Assistant), Linda Granger (Parks and Rec Director), Alistair Reynolds (ODNR Forester)

Visitors: Frank Reed

The meeting was called to order at 6:32pm.

Minutes from the June 27, 2023 meeting were approved with no changes.

Agenda for the meeting was approved with no changes.

Village Report

- Grant Status
 - Urban Canopy Restoration (10/2023 deadline) – Future topic as ODNR is waiting on additional information.
- Update on Farm Market table
 - Mr. Kitts will connect individually with Tree Commission members on manning the Farm Market table and possible table at Music in the Park.
- Initial Tree list has been compiled and posted to the website. Future updates could include:
 - Tree size categories
 - “Do not plant” category
 - Suggestions based on lot size.
 - Included guidelines, such as house façade and power lines.
 - Possible diagram / home owners tree guide
- Village is reviewing possible mini tree giveaway at upcoming Fall Fest and/or Farmers Market
- Parks department asked for \$4,000 for Tree Commission in upcoming 2024 budget. Final approval goes to Council in November.

ODNR Update

- The municipal nursery tour was successful.
- The position of Urban Forestry supervisor is vacant and posted.
- When a new supervisor is posted, Mr. Reynolds might have more updates on grants.

Old Business

- Review Tree Ordinance Updates and Next Steps
 - Members reviewed the updates and changes to the Tree Ordinance from the previous meeting.
 - Discussion around “penalty” for removal/abuse of public tree.
 - Mr. Kitts will review zoning code to confirm if it includes adequate wording around proctor/soil compaction for new housing developments.

- Mr. Kitts and Ms. Grainger will review the questions and changes with the Village Administrator and provide an update at the next meeting.
- Mr. Kitts reviewed the upcoming fall project for the Darby area nature preserve project in partnership with Tolles, which is funded by the Ohio Environmental Education Fund Grant.

New Business

- Mr. Kitts reviewed the new Tree Commission page on the village website and asked for feedback from commission members at an upcoming meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm.

Future Discussion Topics

Status on Tree City USA application

2024 Budget

Tree Ordinance approvals at City council

Feedback on Tree Commission page on village website