

TREE COMMISSION MINUTES
February 27, 2024

Present: Garrett Price, Christy Syfert, Polly Seum, Tim Miklasiewicz, Denton Kitts

Absent: Mary McGrath, Linda Granger, Alistair Reynolds (ODNR)

Visitors: None

The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm.

Minutes from the January 23, 2024, meeting were approved with no changes.

Agenda for the meeting was approved.

Village Report

- Tree City USA Awards Ceremony times are still TBD. The application has been approved through two levels; Arbor Day foundation still must approve.
- The updated Memorial Tree brochure will be reviewed internally and posted to the village website.
- Mr. Kitts is working on the Municipal Arboretum plan. He, along with Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Miklasiewicz, will meet and identify the current trees at Pastime Park. Afterwards, the application will be submitted to ArbNet, the Arboretum accreditation program.
- Mr. Kitts and Ms. Granger presented a Year End Review of the 2023 Parks and Recreation activities and statistics to Village Council on February 26, 2023. Council will be kept updated throughout 2024.

Old Business

- Updates are still being made to the tree planting guide and will be shared with the Tree Commission prior to posting to the village website.
- Mr. Kitts, Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Miklasiewicz reviewed and updated the current list of recommended trees. Some specific species were removed; the list was also expanded to give developers more options.
- The Spot is still in the planning stages, but the City Planner provided the current tree list to the developers.
- Arbor Day activities in the process of being planned. Mr. Kitts is awaiting a response from the school for confirmation of the tree planting and which grade(s) will be involved. A coloring contest will be held for the school and students from Tolles might be involved in the day's activities as well.
- Earth Day activities are also in the planning process.
 - The tree giveaway will be held on Monday, 4/22, from 4-7pm at the Cattle Barn shelter in Pastime Park. The village will have 21 types of trees to give away. Trees will be identified for residents and fact sheets will be provided.
 - Mr. Miklasiewicz will send Mr. Kitts the tree information he has for use on the fact sheets.
 - March 2024 Tree Commission meeting agenda will include finalizing the plans/volunteer opportunities for the members.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53pm.

Future Discussion Topics

Arbor Day tree giveaway coordination

Tree Ordinance / City Zoning Code updates

Municipal Arboretum Plan Review

Further planning for 2024 Tree Commission Activities

Review of new development landscape plans