

## **Aug 4, 2021 Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 6:03 following Walk n Talk

### **Roll Call:**

Diane Bowman x Emmalee Herndon Lawrence Herndon Diane Smith x Pam Taylor x Julie Wilczynski x  
Jennifer Senchak x Jeff Smith (liaison) x

**Recognition of guests:** Greg Mason, Eric Collins, Mike Wilczynski Jr.

**Approval of Minutes** (from June 02, 2021 )

Motion to Approve: Diana 2<sup>nd</sup>: Pam approved

### **Treasurer's Report**

**Balance \_ 16,787.49**

**Grant Report:** Flexi pave...ACF Environmental

**Arborist Report:** various maintenance projects addressed – on site inspection of RACB property, Nextier, Mystique Moon, DMKC&G, suckers in several tree wells removed, watering etc.

**Project Reports:** New plantings are done for the season. We can start accepting requests for Fall Planting. Missy Sheptak, 300 East Pearl Street is requesting a meeting to discuss whether she would be eligible. Greg Mason, 308 Broad St. also possible once his old maple is removed.

As part of the Storm Damage replacement, and Adopt a tree, the Shade Tree Commission successfully had 5 trees planted this year: 2 redbuds, 2 planes, and an additional plane at owner expense. We also paid to have them installed and mulched. Water bags were delivered and given instructions on use. Diane turned in forms and invoices...all bills have now been paid and City of Butler (shade tree) has been reimbursed where needed.

**Kathy Kerry Project:** Trees were delivered and a small crew from Garguilos planted them as we could not get volunteers to help. Also, due to the hot dry weather, we needed to get them in quickly. Kathy reimbursed the city (shade tree) for the delivery cost. *(Kathy's check has been delivered to city office along with a donation to Shade Tree)*

**William May Project:** Trees were delivered and a small crew from Garguilos planted them as we could not get volunteers to help. As it was close to Kathy's house the crew was able to move from one residence to the other. Again, due to the hot dry weather, we needed to get them in quickly. Bill has reimbursed the city (shade tree) for the cost of the third tree.

**Water Bags:** Diane purchased 12 water bags from Amazon after consulting with Jen over the type of bag. These are 15 gallon bags. Shade Tree will reimburse Diane for 8 bags which will be loaned out to people who get new trees as part of the program.

**Penn Street:** Armstrong has removed rose bushes, dead pear, and 2 remaining pears which were very stressed and in poor condition. Armstrong also cleared wells to 18 inches. Property Manager, Emil Parent, says fall planting of ginkgos from Lake Forest Gardens is still the plan. Jen has offered to tag the trees.

**Broad St.:** (permit was sent): Mr. Mason has been sent forms and has been invited to the meeting. He sent pictures that seem to indicate crown die back and is in the process of obtaining a tree service company. On site inspection confirms.

**Mystic Moon:** corner locust with raised roots was removed and sidewalk repaired with stones. Signs are now visible. Owner is still open to replacing trees on Cunningham if other plans fall into place.

**310 N. McKean:** Property owner Ruth Thoma is asking for advice and assistance

**HWA :** Resident asking for advice on treatment for hemlocks on the property

**Walks and Talks: Program for 2021 now complete**

June: Ritts Park: subject was HWA and Conservancy plantings, importance of Natives

July: Memorial Park: subject was tree plantings, choosing new trees, after care. Rotary plantings were used as examples.

August: subject was prunings. Jennifer talked about proper pruning procedures. Many examples were within the Father Marinaro park of proper and improper (old) prunings. Good Q & A.

**Cunningham street: Old Pears.** Diane met with Ian Forte (forester for first energy) and did an on site inspection of trees on both sides. Ian is putting together a proposal for the removal of as many trees as can legitimately be addressed by the power company, thereby saving the city and/or residents thousands of dollars. Shade Tree will need to discuss a replanting program **if** a formal proposal is forthcoming. This is from Chestnut Street to Main Street

**Code.**

Diane, John and Derek are in discussions on how to best proceed with program to address nuisance and dangerous trees.

Derek to send Diane list of violation letters sent.

**New Business:**

The power company informed Shade Tree that they are taking down three trees on Broad that are in the wires and in poor condition due to topping. These trees are already noted on the inventory as "should be removed". This will be an ongoing situation as they continue to do maintenance around the city.

**General Discussion or comments:**

New Facebook posts are up concerning Adopt a tree projects, HWA and Tree of heaven.

Motion to Adjourn: time of adjournment (6:31) (a lightening storm hit the park and the midget football teams had to run to the shelter) Jen took the opportunity to ask a few questions of the children about trees.