

Borough of Phoenixville

Tree Advisory Committee Meeting

January 8, 2024

Attendance: Commissioners - Mary Foote, Susan Di Cerchio, Randy Morin; Borough Representatives - Brian Watson, Alexis Strunk; Contract Arborist - Mike Dunn; Borough Council Liaison - Beth Burckley; Public Participants

Action items in **BOLD**

November Minutes Review:

- Mary recommends approval of the Oct and Nov minutes.
- TAC votes to approve.
- **Alexis will post minutes to the website.**

Public Comment:

- Leslie Knapp (1221 Garfield Ave - Tag #1955) - This address was listed in the original bid Tree Removal Plan list from 2020. The resident noticed that many of the trees from this list have been removed but not hers. She would like to have it removed due to sewer issues and dead limbs falling. Brian explained that the list was amended to remove hazardous and dying trees rather than entire blocks at time regardless of tree status. Mike recommended pruning of a healthy oak tree. Brian advised the resident that the sewer line can be repaired without the removal of the tree.
- Alistair Borillo (89 Second Ave - Tag #2089) - Resident is asking for pruning or removal of a tree that has caused sewer issues. Mike recommended pruning of dead wood and and for clearance.
- Bill Evans (901 Gay St) - large maple stem is still standing at his yard; ProMark is still responsible for removal of the trunk and stump; **Brian will follow-up with ProMark.**

Committee Update:

- James Carminito will be joining the TAC as Council Liaison. Beth Burckley is attending in his place today and will likely fill in when and if James is unavailable.
- Mary spoke to Victoria Case regarding the opening on TAC. Vicki travels for work, but it was decided **Mary should explore whether she could still be a good candidate.**

Arborist Update:

- Reviewed 19 trees this month. 3 were recommended for removal and 16 for pruning.
- Mike has about 80 trees to recommend for the 2024 removal list. **Mike will update the list as new data comes in from the updated inventory that will be conducted this year.**

2024 Tree Removal and Pruning Lists:

- **Brian is working to get a contractor in place for 2024 Tree Replacement Plan removals.**

Fall 2023 Contract Planting:

- **Borough is going to get started soon on planting the 80 trees.** They expect to be done by April.

2024 Spring Plantings:

- Volunteer Planting on April 20th

- Event with coincide with Earth Day event in Reservoir Park
- **Randy and Mary will work together to plan for 20-25 trees.**
- Contract
 - Spring planting sites of approx. 20-25 will be determined

Volunteer Pruning Events:

- A small group of volunteers pruned recently planted trees on Franklin and Dayton.
- **Mary plans to plan more pruning events in Feb and March.**

New Business:

- **Susan will draft some options for a program to help residents cover the cost of sidewalk replacement.**
- Hungarian Club trees - Signs were installed where Mary was expecting trees. **Brian will check in on where trees may be able to get installed on the property.**
- Increase large trees in Reeves Park - Mary suggests planting more large trees in Reeves Park to enhance and maintain this “cooling zone.” The east side of the park has lots of open space. **TAC will review the Reeves Park plan and suggest future planting.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm

Next meeting - Feb. 12, 2024 at 7 pm