

Borough of Phoenixville

Tree Advisory Committee Meeting

March 4, 2024

Attendance: Commissioners - Mary Foote, Susan Di Cerchio, Jane Dugdale, Randy Morin; Borough Representatives - Brian Watson, Alexis Strunk; Contract Arborist - Mike Dunn (Brandywine Urban Forest); Borough Council Liaison - James Carminito; Public Participants

Action items in **BOLD**

Public Comment:

- Justin Gordon (Pennsylvania Ave) - interested in volunteering on the TAC in some capacity

February Minutes Review:

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

Committee Update:

- We encouraged Justin to apply, and we are also hoping that Jennifer Chandler will apply.

Arborist Update:

- One tree that was listed for pruning last year has been switched to a removal.
- The inventory update is underway. Brandywine is creating a new list of planting sites that is more refined.
- Expected completion time for new inventory will be late May to early June.
- Mike will also compare the new data against the old data.

Budget:

- Not much spending yet this year.

Fall 2023 Contract Planting:

- Planted 20 trees so far.
- 10 more sites have been marked for the next plantings.

Future Plantings:

- We will use Brandywine's upcoming tree planting location list along with the urban tree canopy map, and tree equity scores for the Borough's districts to select sites for future volunteer plantings.

Volunteer Pruning Event:

- Next pruning event on March 9th at 10 am. **TAC members and volunteers will meet at Phx Fed Bank parking lot at Church St to prune several areas including Starr St and Nutt Rd.**

Community Outreach:

- **Susan is still working on the draft sidewalk grant program options.**
- TAC needs to make the Earth Day Festival the official Arbor Day celebration for the Borough for 2024.

- **Date is 4/20 at noon. Randy and Susan will plan to set up the tent and table at 11 am at Reservoir Park.**
- **Randy will get Mayor Pete to sign the Arbor Day proclamation**
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New Business:

- **Mary will set up a walking meeting at Reeves Park to talk about planting large trees.**
- Mike from Brandywine Urban Forest offered to pick up trees for the public tree PHS spring order and will reach out directly to Kim Scott.
- Susan suggested outreach to people in neighborhoods that may be resistant to trees planted in the right of way and thought Ringold St might be a good place to start.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm

Next meeting - Apr. 1, 2024 at 7 pm