

Borough of Phoenixville

Tree Advisory Committee Meeting

October 7, 2024

Attendance: Commissioners - Mary Foote, Susan Di Cerchio, Randy Morin, Justin Gordon; Borough Representatives - Brian Watson, Alexis Strunk; Borough Council Liaison - James Carminito; Contract Arborist - Mike Dunn, Brandywine; Volunteer - Jen Chandler

Action items in **BOLD**

Public Comment:

- N/A

September Minutes Review:

- Mary recommends approval of the September minutes. Susan seconds the motion.
- TAC votes to approve.
- **Susan will submit a PDF for Alexis to post minutes to the website.**

Committee Update:

- Welcome Justin to your first meeting!
- Jen Chandler is also interested in joining the committee and is attending as a volunteer.

Arborist Update:

- Mike Dunn reviewed a few trees today:
 - Sidewalk concern at 41 Robarts Drive (tree #2543); Mike recommends the tree be pruned and sidewalk could be routed around
 - 444 High St pruning recommended
 - 241 Virginia Ave there are young trees that are getting hacked and need to be mulched; plus there is an open tree pit where one has died.

Planning for Future Planting Projects:

- Mike Dunn delivered an updated list with 251 recommended planting sites.
 - One area that we want to focus on is Main St between Bridge and Washington.

Fall Volunteer Planting:

- We plan to plant 17 large trees in Reeves Park, 12 at the disc golf course, and 1 on Hall St. (Cost \$2600)
- **Mary will plan to pick up coffee and donuts.**
- Planting event will take place on Nov 16, 2024 at 9 am.
- **Randy will send the list of locations to Brian for 1-calls.**
- The Streets Dept. can pick up the 2 residential trees for Kim Scott's group.

- [Map of potential sites](#)

2024 Tree Removal List:

- New Contractor is in place and continuing work.

Community Outreach:

- TAC hosted a table at Green Fest on Sept. 14

Fall Contract Planting:

- Roughly \$29K for contract planting
 - Trees average about \$200 so roughly 140 trees are possible in the budget.
 - The Borough will plant the trees.
 - Mike can give the Borough crew a quick training on planting techniques.
 - Alexis has already sent letters to about 170 addresses.
 - Randy will match up those addresses with the suggested locations to join the species suggestions and canopy cover information.

Review of Development Plans (Mike Dunn):

- 224-226 Nutt Road: Lot consolidation and Land development
 - Mike reviewed the plan and noticed the trees were selected from our recommended planning list but there may be some better options. The herbaceous and shrub plantings should also be reconsidered by using native species.
- Oakwood Land Development
 - Mike reviewed the plan and noticed the trees were selected from our recommended planning list but there may be some better options. The herbaceous and shrub plantings should also be reconsidered by using native species. They have 2 parking lot islands in the plan but Mike would suggest 6. He also suggests trying to get the developers to remove the topped pin oaks on the Bridge St side of the development.
- Christman St
 - Tree plantings are fine.
 - They need to update some of their best management practices related to vegetation on the plan.

New Business:

- Tree Canopy Conference - Oct 18th at Haverford College
 - Susan will attend.

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm

Next meeting - Nov 4, 2024 at 6 pm