

Borough of Phoenixville

Tree Advisory Committee Meeting

September 9, 2024

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

Action items in **BOLD**

Public Comment:

- Linda Fields, 409 Park Dr (Tree #2099) - Brandywine recommended this tree for removal in April; Brian expects removals will start back up in Sept/Oct 2024; resident has had a long struggle with a previous tree (#Tree 2605) including lots of damage. She is frustrated and wants the other tree to be removed ASAP.
- Bryan Churchey, 521 Reeves Dr (Tree #2076) - Brandywine recommended this tree for pruning, medium priority in May; resident has been trying to install a driveway for about 4 years but the tree's roots are in the area; he would like to have the tree removed; he has had a 'ribbon' driveway installed above grade in order to prevent digging down into the root system; resident is concerned about tree dropping branches or falling especially after the concrete installation because he has seen other trees causing damage.

August Minutes Review:

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

Committee Update:

- Justin Gordon has officially been appointed, but he is out of town this week.

Arborist Update:

- Reviewed 12 service requests this month. Mostly resulted in pruning recommendations.
- Most removals for 2024 are pin oaks in the Presidential neighborhood.
- Susan asked about some trees on the Borough tree map website that don't seem to be accurate. Mike will work on updating the public database.

Planning for Future Planting Projects:

- Brandywine has delivered a list of 216 best planting sites. They can help identify more in future updates.
 - One area that we want to focus on is Main St between Bridge and Washington.

Fall Volunteer Planting:

- We plan to plant about 17 large trees in Reeves Park, 12 at the disc golf course, and 1 on Hall St. (Cost \$2600)
- Planting event will take place on Nov 23, 2024.
- TAC will have locations planned for 1-call prior to Nov. 1st.
- [Map of potential sites](https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1botSAC_6xFjxEeuzSFTeIBRUNPyS1Y&usp=sharing) -
https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1botSAC_6xFjxEeuzSFTeIBRUNPyS1Y&usp=sharing

Volunteer Pruning:

- N/A

Community Outreach:

- Mary and Justin plan to sit at the TAC table at Green Fest (Sept. 14).
- Justin is planning community outreach activities (arts, crafts, educational)
- Randy will bring the tent down for setup and also pick it up.

New Business:

- Property owner on Melvin is asking to remove a row of fruit trees. Due to unapproved planting and inappropriate species the TAC recommends approval and suggests that we consider planting appropriate species for the location.

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm

Next meeting - Oct 7, 2024 at 6 pm