

Borough of Phoenixville

Tree Advisory Meeting

Date: 2025/05/05

Attendance: Commissioners - Mary Foote, Justin Gordon, Jennifer Chandler; Borough Representatives - Brian Watson, Alexis Strunk; Brandywine. Borough resident: Bill Evans
Action items in **BOLD**

Minutes Review

- Minutes from April meeting approved

Public Comment

- Bill Evans (901 Gay Street) - Interested in tree planting and asking if public plantings are happening this meeting. Requesting 4 total trees. The trees are purchased and the borough is in the process of getting these trees planted. **Alexis will email Bill with the species that will be planted on that block.** Bill would like to be notified when the trees will be planted, if possible.

Committee Update

- Japanese maple with dead limbs in Reeves Park adjacent to canons (just off Main Street between 2nd and 3rd Ave.) Inspection and trim needed.
- Mary asks if Borough needs assistance with tree planting, suggesting that we use surplus money to hire out the planting. Eighty trees remain to be planted. Depending on cost, the job would have to go out for bid (\$22,000 per fiscal year is the cap - above that is the threshold for a bid). Plans for fall planting include hiring out a company to do planting.
- Fall volunteer tree planting (PHS) might focus on 5th Ave between Main and Starr - high demand. Letter to residents 2-weeks prior to flags being put out.
- Resident at 252 2nd Avenue wants to keep tree #363 (Pin Oak) although it is in decline and the tree has been flagged to be removed. Tree has been reviewed three times by arborist. **Justin to email resident with information on this tree.**

Arborist Update

- N/A

Current Business

- A. 2025 Tree Removal List - Yellowstone Landscape

- a. Started tree removal on Starr Street today (5/5/25).
- B. Budget Report
 - a. N/A
- C. Community Outreach
 - a. Volunteer planting occurred on 4/12/25 with Justin and Randy finishing up 4/19 and 4/26.
 - b. Earth Day was well attended - all items returned to garage by Craig.

New Business

- Brian: Borough met with PECO a few weeks ago, and they're interested in helping us remove trees whose canopy PECO has altered for running wire (approximately 40 trees). PECO would rather remove the trees instead of continually trim them. Borough would have to pay for small, replacement street trees.
- Fall planting plans
 - PHS volunteer planting - tentative spots identified by Mary (see above)
 - Contract planting - **Alexus will send Justin a list of planting sites for trees we currently have (FY 25 trees).**

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM

Next meeting - 06/02/25