

Borough of Phoenixville

Tree Advisory Meeting

Date: 02/02/2026

Attendance

Commissioners - Mary Foote, Justin Gordon (Chairperson), Jennifer Chandler (Secretary),
Borough Representatives - Brian Watson
Borough Council Liaison - Brian Weiss
Contract Arborist - Vacant

Action items in **BOLD**

Minutes Review

- Approved minutes of 11/3/25

Public Comment

- Colin Kilroy (512 West Anderson Ave) - Household put in request for tree pruning in summer 2024, and emailed again in February 2025 to follow up on pruning request. Branches are coming down on sidewalk and yard. Would like to express urgency for pruning of the trees near his property. Tree numbers are 2309 and 1945. Would like to have a date for when pruning can be done. Brian indicates that the work will be done in early spring (March or April).

Committee Member Update/Discussion

- Welcome Brian Weiss to Tree Committee Meeting
- Arborist Update - No update. Currently have Steve Bannon (arborist) that can be contacted for.
- **Alexus will set up a SharePoint site for all of TAC data/information.**
- Tree City USA application is pending Mayor signature.
- Fall 2025 tree planting. The borough took delivery of 80 trees. Poor weather prevented planting. Once the weather improves, planting will resume.
- Justin Gordon will continue as Chairperson of TAC

Current Business

- 2026 Tree Removal Contractor - Sky High Services LLC
 - Approved by the Borough Council. Currently obtaining bonds and paperwork. Sky High Services is out of Colleagueville, PA. They'll be contracted for tree removal.
- 2026 Planting Locations

- At 80 total trees as of now with hold over trees from 2025. The goal is to identify 160 total sites for 2026 trees.
- Budget Report
 - Budget down this year compared to last. 2026 budget: \$40,000 for tree replacement/planting. \$100,000 for tree removal contract in 2026. \$80,000 for tree removal/maintenance services. \$5,000 for operating supplies. \$1,000 for community education. Total 2026 budget = \$226,000. None spent so far in 2026.
 - Prioritize quarterly reports to Borough Council regarding TAC actions.
- Community Outreach
 - Social media inquiry - any kind of social media must go through the Borough. We can produce content and send it to Borough for approval and posting. Any content must be sent to Meghan Straut (Community Engagement Coordinator).
- Nursery Update
 - The Borough met with Eric from Colonial Gardens to discuss ideas. Recommended starting saplings in buckets. Will be placed in the open field next to the compost site. Ready to take action, but waiting for weather to break to begin planting. The nursery budget doesn't come out of the aforementioned budget.

New Business

- PHS Planting for Arbor Day
 - Trees from PHS are full price now, and an application is due per planting site. The goal to alleviate application burden is to stick to parks. The goal for arbor day planting is 20 trees planted. Potential sites are Morris Park, Fisher Park, and Cascaden Park. **Chandler will identify planting sites in Morris Park and Gordon in Cascaden.** Planting day will be Saturday April 18, 2026.
- Mill Street Trees - Sewer Lines
 - Complaint from resident about Borough tree roots in her sewer line, which necessitated repair of terracotta pipe.
- Communication with Residents
 - When a resident puts a request in, or comes to the TAC meeting, there is no clarity on how the follow-up with the resident occurs. Protocol for follow-up communications is needed, and will be discussed again in March meeting. Thoughts included building out template responses with a section for detailed resolution per individual to be updated with information from meeting minutes once those minutes are approved.

Bird Town USA

- Added to the charge of TAC. **Information about Bird Town USA will be sent by Alexis to TAC.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:02

Next meeting - 3/2/26 at 6:00pm