

Mariemont Tree Advisory Board Meeting Notes May 12, 2021 / 3:00 – 4:00 PM

Attendees + Monthly Volunteers Hours

Voting Members: Barb Whittaker (23 hours), Marcy Lewis (17 hours), Kristin Van Scoy (21 hours) and Jason Brownknight (6 hours),

Non-voting Members: Margaret Jevic (6 hours), Cortney Scheeser (4 hours), and John Bentley (6 hours)

Wendi Van Buren (ODNR) and John Scherpenberg (Village of Mariemont)

Meeting Notes

- April meeting notes were approved
- Arbor Day Event Follow-up (Cortney)
 - Good crowd at event, overall good response from audience, good variety of activities were presented, good content. Could have gotten the word out more regarding the poetry contests and event overall.
 - Margaret J. is currently editing the video of the event.
 - Cortney noted he heard, and has heard, that some current residents, new residents, and potential residents are concerned about the larger trees located in the Village (i.e., mature trees along streets and within parcel lots). Opportunity for the tree board to play a role for advocating for trees overall and healthy (non-risk) mature trees and the important role trees play in our community.
 - Cortney announced he and his family will be leaving the Village this year and will be stepping down as a member of the tree board. This would be his final meeting with the group. We all thanked Cortney for his great leadership with the Arbor Day event and wish him and his family the best.
- Barb noted there are several young street trees in the Village with tree guards that are too tight and are impacting the health of the tree. In general once the diameter-at-breast-height (dbh) of a tree is bigger than a pop-can the tree is no longer at risk of deer rubbing on the tree.
- Tree Inventory Update (Barb)
 - Barb noted that her husband has volunteered to develop a Micro-soft Excel spreadsheet for the street tree inventory. Mary Beth will be providing the forms and data to be submitted into the spreadsheet.
- Street Tree Inventory for Chestnut Street (Wendi)
 - Wendi provided a summary of the results.
On May 6th Wendi and Jason performed a street tree inventory of Chestnut Street. Information recorded during the inventory included; diameter-at-breast-height (dbh), tree identification, assessment of current condition of tree, location of available planting spots, and location of trees needed removed or any potential hazards. Wendi's recommendations and proposed plan has been submitted to John Scherpenberg.
 - New plantings will be funded from the existing MPF tree fund.
 - Some discussion was held in regards to the recommendation that a type of columular oak be planted in street tree cut-out areas in front of some of the buildings. Wendi provided the group with a list of street trees adapted to cut-outs in urban environments. She asked

the group to consider the options and be ready to continue the discussion during the next meeting.

- Wendi shared with the group that overall she felt that the Village has a great age diversity and a wonderful tree diversity as well. She also noted that the tree fear in regards to existing large trees and the fear of future large trees can be seen across the board in the region.
- Possibly write a town crier article to help spread awareness
- Education Group Discussion (Barb)
 - No town crier June, July, August
 - Kristin noted we should have a tab and page of the Village website about tree resources. Maybe have a Tree City USA tab for the Village website
 - Barb informed the group that we have an opportunity to have a table at Taste of Mariemont. Kristin and Barb volunteered to host the table. Need to order ISA brochures to hand out. Wendi will help with ordering. Cost for 100 brochures is between \$12 and \$20 depending on type of brochure.
 - Wendi noted that other communities have held tree walks for residents. Marcy noted this could be incorporated into MPF tours to highlight tree diversity in the Village. Maybe have a fall town crier article about trees.
 - Cortney noted to make sure we reach out to younger generations. We do not want to miss out on different age groups.
 - Kristin mentioned possibly involving the new high school Environmental Studies Program.

Meeting was adjourned

Next meeting June 9th at 3:00 PM