

MARIEMONT TREE ADVISORY BOARD

11-10-21 Meeting Notes Location: Zoom

Meeting was called to order by Barb Whittaker at 3:04 pm.

Meeting attendees + monthly volunteer hours: Barb Whittaker - 27, Mary Beth York - 8, Marcy Lewis - 8, Margaret Jevic - 9, Kristin Van Scoy - 9, John Bentley - 1

Member hours not in attendance, collected by Barb W - Jason Brownknight - 20, Ginger Kelly - 2

Meeting Notes

- * Roll call was conducted by Barb W.
- * John S said Chestnut St trees go in on Fri morning, Nov 12, 2021, volunteers welcome to help plant - digging holes, helping plant, smooth dirt, mulch. Marcy volunteered to take pictures. John S. said we spent \$5,000 for cherries & chinquapin oaks [actual cost of new trees sent via email receipt is \$3,694. \$1,710 for Yoshino Cherries and \$1,984 for Chinkapin Oaks.]
- * John S said we need to file for Tree City USA for this year. Barb W volunteered to assist John S with the growth award. Discussion about applying for growth award.
- * Barb W said grant was received & was complete. Now we will wait to hear back from ODNR on if we got it or not. Marcy L said she thought the grant was well received by council.
- * John S said Wendi Van Buren is very busy now and to contact John S before Wendi at this time.
- * Kristin V said pruning workshop went well. Discussion of how each attendee felt about the experience. John S said in the past pruning has been done at the homeowners request even if not correct due to complaints.
- * Marcy L asked how we are going to keep track and keep a schedule for pruning trees. John S said we have records of when trees were planted. Marcy L said we could create a spreadsheet to keep track of when trees were planted and when they need to be pruned. John S and Mary Beth Y said Jason B may have a way to keep track of this. Discussion of best way to keep track of this information.
- * Kristin V said there are trees and streets we have not kept track of and likes the idea of the excel spreadsheet. Discussion of where information is and how best to compile it. Kristin V said she can work with John S to create a spreadsheet of trees so we can track planting, removal, and pruning. John S said 3700 block of Petoskey had trees planted 3 years ago, one may be dead, and could be a good site for volunteer pruning.
- * Margaret J updated on Town Crier article about pruning for December. Discussion on how to notify residents that they will be seeing trained volunteer pruners - group thinks letters left at the residence once we decide where to prune.
- * Marcy L said Jason B is working on village web page, and suggested we submit pictures and links to TAB articles from Town Crier.

- * Invasive plant removal - John S said tree on Homewood has been dropping limbs, needs to check on a tree on Lytle Woods. Honeysuckle needs to be removed on Miami Bluff. Discussion on how best to remove and what time of year. Would like to get some volunteers to help. Kristin V said environmental club at HS may be interested in helping since they are looking for projects to complete. Barb W said she can help lead invasive removal this fall and Kristin V will contact the environmental club. Kristin V said Jason may be able to do tree of heaven removal at Concourse and down by pool.
- * Mariemont Code 96 - Barb W explained this is our tree code for the village. Asked if we want to try to revise tree code over the winter. Mary Beth Y said we should all take a look at the current code & discuss at next meeting. Discussion about need to educate public that these laws exist, maybe use website. Kristin V suggested we change the ordinance to what we want it to be before educating the public about what the ordinances are. Discussion about focusing on street tree ordinance but also giving opinions about changes to residential/private trees if we see something that needs to be changed. John S gave the history of how needing a permit to remove a tree came about. Discussion of how to enforce getting a permit and replanting, especially when removing a heritage trees. Agreement that we need to review the code - everyone will submit changes to Kristin V for discussion at next meeting.
- * Tree guards - Barb W said some guards are too large, some too small. John S said it's OK to have volunteers go around and take off guards that are too tight or replace where needed.
- * Pruning Notification - John S will write a letter to residents to inform them tree board will be pruning in their area, and will provide vests and other ID for the volunteers. Agreement that we will give a range of dates due to weather, etc.
- * Kristin V proposed we do have a December meeting. Next meeting will be Dec 8, 2021 at 3:00 pm.
- * John B told us about the World Trade Center monument and the white oaks growing out of the pavement and how it is a beautiful monument.
- * Meeting was adjourned at 4:02 pm.