

MARIEMONT TREE ADVISORY BOARD

April 13, 2022 Meeting Notes Location: Zoom

Meeting was called to order by Kristin Van Scoy at 3:03 pm.

Meeting attendees + monthly volunteer hours: Larry G - 6, Margaret J - 2, Marcy L - 2.5, Mary Beth Y - 14.5, Barb W - 18, Kristin VS - 5.5, John B - 2
Member hours not in attendance, collected by Barb W - Bob Faelton - 2, Mary Gerson - 2

Total hours: 125 previous months + 54.5 = **179.5**

Meeting Notes

Roll call was conducted by Kristin VS.

March minutes approved.

Kristin VS said Ginger K would like to resign her board position due to time conflict with TAB meetings.

* Agenda Items

Spring Planting Progress

Mary Beth Y said John S has sourced trees from suppliers for District 6, but we need an official report from him.

Barb W said she went to John's office and said John found certain trees in certain places but couldn't get them all. Barb W asked if we could go out and pick/label our own trees (for example, single stem red bud), John said it is possible.

Mary Beth Y asked how we should approach it if we are interested in helping.

John Bentley joined meeting - 2 hours

Barb W said Woody Warehouse in IN would be farthest she'd want to go. Also mentioned staking the trees planted on Chestnut last year. Said trees also had trunk damage from what look like landscaping company mowers. Said John S said they can cut some stakes to support them. Do we want to help with this?

Larry G volunteered to do staking.

Barb W also mentioned putting down a pre-emergent weed killer.

Margaret J asked about square mulching to help mowers not hit trees.

Barb W said it was a good idea, just need to remove some of the vegetation around the trees.

Marcy L asked about how much/what shape for mulch. Discussion about proper mulching technique.

Margaret J & Kristin VS volunteered to help mulch, Kristin VS said after graduation she will be available. Barb W said John S said he has some mulch we can use.

John B asked about gator bags. Barb W said they are very small and need staking.

John S joined the meeting.

John S said the Chestnut trees were from Woody Warehouse. John B said there are other wholesale nurseries as well.

Kristin VS asked John S for spring planting update. John S said we don't have everything yet, have some trees. Have trees from Site 1 for Elm St (for Arbor Day celebration), oaks for Mariemont Ave.

Barb W asked where Site 1 is.

John S said yes it's on Mosteller.

Barb W asked if we can go choose trees. Barb W and Larry G volunteered to go choose trees.

Arbor Day

Barb W said Mary Beth Y and herself went and watched 50W brew the beer for Arbor Day. Need volunteers to sit at table from 4-8 pm.

Kristin VS asked what the date is.

Barb W said April 28.

Marcy L said she can do 4-5.

Mary Beth Y said she will likely be there the whole time.

Barb W said she will likely be there the whole time as well but would appreciate help.

Barb W said we have pamphlets, need an easel.

Larry G asked if we have the donation code.

Mary Beth Y said she has it and it works now.

John S said we have a tree city USA flag we can use for the table.

Larry G has a Mariemont flag we can use as well.

Barb W also made a pruning example that we may or may not use. Also will take clipboard and try to get volunteers.

Discussion about raffle vs split the pot.

Mary Beth Y said she can bring her laptop and have pictures of Mariemont trees loaded to a slideshow to play.

Discussion about having a gift card for cookies as a little prize from Claire's Cakery.

Margaret J said she will ask about that with Claire.

Pruning Recap

Larry G said he and Mary Beth Y said they did part of Chestnut & Murray and trees look more open after pruning and are looking nice. Mary Beth Y said it wasn't all young trees, some were old ones that needed attention with low or broken branches. Sprayed all equipment with bleach water from one tree to the next.

Barb W asked John S how he thought pruning went.

John S said one of his guys should come with us next time we prune to help get higher branches instead of having to try to communicate which trees they need to go back and do. If we coordinate efforts jointly it might work out easier.

Discussion about how best to coordinate with John S's team, since not all trees will need their assistance.

Kristin VS said if we need John S we need to note it and coordinate so we can go to the tree together.

Marcy L said observing her own yard trees, that mother nature does a pretty good job so we shouldn't feel bad if we couldn't get to some trees in the past.

Barb W said we should note trees that need to be limbed up above the road so they don't get hit by cars as a place to start for John S's team.

Mary Beth Y agreed and said there is a lot of damage on Beech St.
Marcy L asked if we could have some young tree pruning information to give to people after receiving a few complaint texts.
Larry G asked if we have had that info in the Town Crier. Discussion that yes we have. Discussion of how best to communicate that we are pruning and what to say to homeowners.

TBU Course Progress

Barb W said we all agreed to look at Course 1 and see if we want to have Wendi to join us in May (but will now be June).
Mary Beth Y & Marcy L weren't able to complete. Larry G & Margaret J did it months ago but felt Course 1 was rather introductory.
Mary Beth Y said we should show interest in continued education.
Barb W said Wendi Van Buren will be present at June 8 meeting do we want to do Course 2 and discuss with her?
Agreement. And agreement to extend meeting to 90 mins to get discussion with Wendi VB.

Outreach & Education

Marcy L said at Rules & Law meeting council recommended change from 9-14 members, had first reading on Monday. Nothing on webpage.
Barb W said she wondered if we could have links to town crier articles that have been written from TAB. Also link for tree board ordinance and link to tree code even though we want to update it.
Discussion about how to link to individual articles so people have easiest access.
Mary Beth Y has physical copies of all articles and can scan them to be put on the website.
Discussion about what to put on website and how to do it. Kristin VS and Marcy L said they can work on this project after June.
Kristin VS said at our next meeting let's have our next subcommittee designations.
Mary Beth Y asked how we feel about Instagram page for tree board? Decided to table this for next month.

Urban Site Index

Kristin VS asked how many districts we finished last year. Barb W said District 6 was completed. Kristin VS asked what we feel is a realistic amount of work we can do for USI this spring before ground gets too hard.
Barb W said we want to get planting plan done, and Urban Site Index is one step, but doing whole village is probably too much.
Marcy L said budget is a constraint so even if we had the whole thing planned we likely would not be able to implement all of it.
Barb W said we could try to get 2 districts. Kristin VS said she thinks that's doable.
Barb W said District 3 is on our list of most in need.
How do we get volunteers to help with this and Chestnut St work?
Larry G said he will do Chestnut St.

Discussion on how to divvy up who is doing what work where. Sign up Genius vs finding a partner and going from there. Kristin VS said she and Barb W can figure out what the districts are and pair an experienced person with an inexperienced person. Barb W said Wendi VB will be in Mariemont on May 17 so we could have a day with her - possibly train people who didn't get the training and have a refresher. Margaret J asked where to send volunteers - got one from TC. Barb W said send to her.

Kristin VS adjourned meeting at 4:08 pm.

Next Meeting is May 11, 2022.

Wendi VB available May 17, 2022.