

## Mariemont Tree Advisory Board

May 11, 2022 Meeting Notes      Location: Zoom

Meeting was called to order by Kristin VS at 3:04 pm

Meeting attendees + monthly volunteer hours: Marcy L - 3, Margaret J - 3, Mary Beth Y - 14, Barb W - 17.5, Kristin VS - 2.5

Member hours not in attendance, collected by Barb W - 0

Total hours: 179.5 previous months + 40 from this month = **219.5**

### **Meeting Notes**

Roll call was conducted by Kristin VS.

#### Agenda Items

April Minutes accepted.

#### Spring Planting

Barb W said John S has 5-7 trees at the shop for spring planting. Barb W said she and Larry G have not looked at nurseries to tag trees, and that Wendi VB said sometimes nurseries charge to do that.

Mary Beth Y said on April 28, 7 trees were planted on Elm St. Discussion about how the trees arrived from the nursery with too much dirt around the root ball, covering the root flare by 10 inches.

Margaret J asked what species of tree was planted. Mary Beth Y said it's a red bud with white flowers.

Mary Beth Y said the trees are looking good.

Barb W said maybe we should develop a guideline for what we would like to happen when a tree is planted - correct planting process, mulch available, tree guards, stakes.

Kristin VS said let's talk about that as a potential sub-committee.

Mary Beth Y said the Elm St trees mulching is good. Space around trunk was left, but no wide mulch ring or gator bags.

Barb W said gator bags should go on around Memorial Day.

Kristin VS said we might want to consider square mulching the Elm St trees when the bags get put on.

#### Board Ordinance

Marcy L said the third reading happened Thursday night, so the corrections are passed.

Kristin VS said we will discuss in a bit the process of adding new members.

#### Communications

Margaret J said Town Crier is done for the summer. Will form a google doc to organize information and have it accessible for everyone to look at (things like mulching, planting, pruning, etc.)

### Arbeer Day Update

Mary Beth Y said it was a great event, good turnout at 50W on April 28th. She said 50W didn't have any numbers in terms of donations when she inquired. Also said she prepared a presentation with photos of trees that was able to be projected on the large screen, and people really enjoyed that. She said she is inquiring with MPF about what we received through the QR code.

### Garden Club of Mariemont presentation

Mary Beth Y. did a presentation to the Garden Club Of Mariemont at the club meeting on April 6th. The slide presentation included an overview of the Mariemont Tree Advisory Board (TAB) and the street tree plantings accomplished to date. The Garden Club of Mariemont made the following donations to the MPF Tree Fund - \$500 from the Garden Club of Mariemont + \$500 from Club Secretary, Judy Kagrise, and \$100 from Club Past President, Karen Berkich; so \$1,100 total went toward the \$2,500 donor match. Kristin VS asked if anyone expressed an interest in volunteering on the TAB after either of these events.

No one has.

### Adding New Members

Kristin VS said we now have spaces available on the committee. Larry G has been doing a great job, so we should discuss how to bring new members on. Asked Marcy L what this looks like on council's end.

Marcy L said if you want to add people it's easiest to do it all at once, give the names to council, they tell the solicitor, a resolution or ordinance is prepared to add members, and then there is a vote.

Mary Beth Y asked why we need to run non-voting committee members through council.

Marcy L said other commissions and committees like Park Board and Pool Commission do need to get approved by council so she will clarify that.

Discussion about once a committee member is approved they can move to a voting member position without having to get re-approved.

Kristin VS said it makes us look disorganized if we go back to council and make more changes to something we just changed. She would rather continue moving forward with who our new committee members will be and on boarding them.

Barb W said Tree Board also has authorization to be in the right of way space, what looks like people's yards, so being officially approved by council is a good thing.

Barb W asked if we have any ideas on who could be a new volunteer.

Discussion about Bob Faelton and Eric Marsland.

Barb W said Eric M has time to take on more volunteer opportunities, also is connected to boy scouts who need hours for the eagle scout projects.

Margaret J said someone reached out on Facebook about having a boy scout troop interested in helping as well.

Marcy L asked how many people we currently have.

Kristin VS said there's the 5 of us, John Bentley, Jason Brownknight, Marianne Prue, possibly Brad Lockhart.

Mary Beth Y said she talked to Brad and he cannot attend meetings, has a horticultural background, but if we find someone that could officially take his spot that is fine too.

We have 7 more spots available to fill.

Barb W said whoever we do find, she'd like to see them sign up for TCA.

Kristin VS said she will put word out to her network, and if others can do that as well and hopefully next month we can come back with new volunteers.

Mary Beth Y asked if there's a document of expectations for volunteers.

Barb W said it's in our ordinance.

Kristin VS said it's good to have people willing to take on education, attend meetings, and has time to help with projects.

Discussion about whether or not village guys could attend TCA and how that could be done in terms of them getting time off to take the course.

### Member Education

Barb W said she asked Wendi VB to help kickstart us back on urban site indexing (USI). She can discuss the how we do it and when we do it, but not the why because that's too much information and more what TCA is about. What time and where do we want to meet her? Also is USI our next step or should we go down another path in terms of next steps.

Kristin VS said if we have any new volunteers it would be good to have them there. USI is important in creating a planting plan for the village.

Marcy L said if it's just us 4 it might be different than if we have new people joining.

Discussion about who is coming and what time of day.

Barb W said we are working on USI for District 3, needs 156 trees. District 2 needs 112 trees. District 4 needs 51. District 1 needs 46 trees. Total of 365 open spots. TCA recommends planting no more than 5-10% of open slots per year (approx 36 trees per year).

Kristin VS said we were going to try to index District 3 and one more for this year.

Barb W asked if we need to be inventorying each district as well as USI? Do we want to develop a planting plan for one of those districts?

Mary Beth Y said we should plant what we put in our grant proposal.

Discussion about how much to plant this year to not go over 10% of open spots.

Kristin VS said to plant a whole district may be a 4 year planting cycle, but over that time we'll develop a planting plan for the whole village.

Agreement to have Wendi VB come with us to do USI for the time we have her.

Discussion of materials needed.

### Sub-Committees

Kristin VS said she will send an email for people to look over - fundraising, preparation for centennial, website (starting in July), USI, mission & objectives, bylaws, how trees get planted. Let's gauge interest and prioritize.

- \* Meeting was adjourned at 3:59 pm by Kristin VS.
- \* Day with Wendi VB is May 17, 2022
- \* Next meeting is June 8, 2022 at 3:00 pm.