

Village of Mariemont Tree Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, October 6, 2020

Present: Wendy Van Buren ODN Representative, Superintendent John Scherpenberg, Council person Dr. Marcy Lewis, Mary Beth York and Barb Whitacker

Missing: Karen Berkich, Mayor Brown

The first annual Tree Board meeting was to discuss the future of the Village of Mariemont tree program, and the Tree Board duties, started their virtual meeting at 10:30 a.m.

One of the goals of the new tree board committee is to maintain Tree City USA status. Establish the right type of tree for each street. This will ensure of a good tree program in the future.

In 2018 the Mariemont Preservation Foundation (MPF) wanted to help the village with the tree program. At the annual Arbor Day Celebration, the MPF set aside \$10,000 to help with the tree planting. The area was walked to see where there may be places to plant trees and the type of tree. The historical area was picked as this area lost a large portion of the tree canopy.

Wendy Van Buren from ODN came up with the recommendations on the type of tree that would be best to plant.

Yosino cherries and red oak trees were planted in the Old Town area on Oak and Cherry Lane. Money was provided by the MPF.

This year we are continuing to plant in the historical area on Maple St. There will be 25 green mountain sugar maples planted throughout Maple Street.

The committee will try to follow John Nolen and Eleanor Christie tree plan. Today there are many areas that cannot have the same trees planted as recommended.

Mary Beth York brought up the Old Town Center historical Christmas tree. The tree dates to 1926 and the concerns are whether we should remove this tree and replace with a large spruce, as this tree has been showing decline the past years.

Should we start a new tree in a different section east of the large spruce and later move the electric and sprinkler lines as needed when the historical tree dies. After a brief discussion Mary Beth York said she would reach out to the Christmas Tree Association to see what they may recommend and try to get community input. It's safe to say the tree will be lit and ready to go for luminary night 2020.

John Scherpenberg and Don Keyes went to Bzak to look at the Norway Spruce selection. Mary Beth York stated that this Thursday they are getting in a new trees.

This group also discussed young tree pruning maintenance plan on the new trees planted in 2018 and should pruned in the fall of 2021.

It was brought up when should the Service Department remove the stakes from the trees just planted. It was suggested after 6 months. John will have the employees start removing as it has been 2 years.

John Scherpenberg sent a thank you letter to the Park Advisory Board and thanking them to their efforts for maintaining the Tree City USA status over the past years.

The next virtual meeting will be Wednesday, November 4, 2020 at 10:30a.m.

The first meeting ended at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Scherpenberg

Superintendent