

Chagrin Falls Shade Tree Commission

Minutes for April Meeting

April 11, 2019

Present: DeBernardo, Himes, Jamieson, Lipp, McGuire, Nelson G, Rounds, Weitzel, Wells

8:30 Meeting called to order

1. Discussed request of resident to be reimbursed for the planting of two trees on a Village-owned tree lawn.

*** It was decided to recommend that the Village never reimburse a resident for planting on a Village-owned tree lawn or within a Village right-of-way.**

*** It was noted that the Village would be responsible for the maintenance of the tree after planting which raised the following issues:**

*** Compliance with and enforcement of Village tree planting specifications**

*** Responsibility for watering the tree after planting (this is currently done for the first year after planting by the sub-contractor)**

*** Type and species of tree planted (current policy requires planting low-growing trees under wires, etc.)**

*** Discussion focusing on the issues raised in "b" above will continue at the May meeting with the goal of establishing a Commission recommendation for policy.**

2. It was agreed that Terry would contact the homeowner making the request in agenda item #1 and propose that two tree lilacs be planted by the Village on the tree lawn in front of his house during this year's spring planting.

*** In the event the homeowner agrees with this suggestion:**

*** Two serviceberry trees designated for planting on Water St. would be planted at 415 Walters Road.**

*** Two tree lilacs designated for planting at 415 Walters Road be planted at 23 Maple St.**

*** This change in planting would result in:**

*** The maintenance of a line of tree lilacs on Walters Road**

*** Allow for the extension of this line to the Village boundary creating a colorful entrance to the Village on Walters Road during the spring.**

* Create a more diverse urban canopy along Walters Road.

3. It was decided that Commission members will train volunteers in the entry of data into an inventory of Village-owned trees maintained on Arborscope.

* This will take place over a period of several years

* This practice will foster the increased involvement of residents in the activities of the Shade Tree Commission resulting in a better understanding of the importance of shade trees in an urban environment.

4. Terry reported on best practices learned when he attended a proper tree planting seminar led by Alan Siewert, ODNR Urban Forester for northeast Ohio.

5. Terry will investigate involving Holden Arboretum's Tree Corps in future plantings. The Tree Corps is a group undergoing 19 weeks of training to prepare its members for employment in the field of arbor culture.

6. John and Terry will meet on Monday, April 15 to finalize plans for the Village's Arbor Day celebration on Saturday, April 27.

7. It was decided to use the weekly mass email "Here's What's Happening from the Village of Chagrin Falls" to inform residents of the Commission's efforts to eliminate the practice of volcano mulching on Village property.

8. Bobby, Ben, Terry, and Ed walked to 23 Maple St. to view the condition of the tree lawn.

9. Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 9.

10. 10:40 a.m. Meeting adjourned