

**TREE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF PIQUA, OHIO
THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2012 – 6:30 P.M.
MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT COMPLEX – ADMINISTRATION CONFERENCE ROOM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Don Ruffner, Larkin Cornett, Judy Terry, and Regina Favorite

MEMBERS ABSENT: Steve Trostel, and Brenda Vetter

STAFF PRESENT: Bob Graeser

MEETING MINUTES

Don Ruffner moved to approve the January 5, 2012 meeting minutes and Judy Terry seconded the motion.

ITEM No. 1. WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Bob Graeser started the meeting by welcoming returning members Steve Trostel and Regina Favorite. Both members have many years of experience and will be bring their special skills to the committee.

ITEM No. 2 CHAIRPERSON ELETION

Because all members were not in attendance, it was decided to table the election of a Chairperson until the next meeting.

ITEM No. 3 ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION

This year's Arbor Day Celebration will be held on April 27th at 10:00 A.M. at Kiwanis Park. Mr. Graeser has invited the Nicklin Learning Center to be a part of the ceremony again. He is also working on having a memorial tree donated for the event. WOTVC - Piqua Channel 5 has been invited to tape the event and the Piqua Daily Call has also been invited to be in attendance. The event is open for the public to attend.

ITEM No. 4 AGENDA FOR 2012

This agenda item was postponed until all members could be present to map out the year's events.

OLD BUSINESS

On Wednesday 4, 2012 the Upper Valley Career Center Environmental Occupations

Class collaborated with the City to remove four large trees from the Echo Hills Golf Course. With help from postgraduate from the program, Jeremy Drake the Urban Forester of Troy, the efforts was a great success. The class of 35 juniors and seniors flooded the golf course fully adorned in proper safety attire to remove the trees around the 14th green. The project was a smash reported Bob.

The City plans on continuing working with the incoming Landscape Class instructor to work in the 75/36 exchange as a special workshop project. Bob will continue to work with the Career Center on other projects throughout the city for parks enhancements.

OTHER BUSINESS

Bob updated the committee that on March 9th he attended EAB Risk Management Program in Wyoming Ohio. The program was underwritten by the City of Wyoming with the goal to approach forestry managers around the southwest district to inform them of changes in the treatment of the Emerald Ash Borer. Most of the program came from other city administrators about their efforts to treat and how much success, this was also confirmed by Joe Boggs of Ohio State Extension that there are several myths that have been prorogated and need to expelled. One of the myths is to remove all effected trees to reduce the progression of the pest. Because of these recommendations were handed down from the Department of Natural Resources.

Bob stated that Piqua has not been treating the Ash trees that are within the right-of-way. Bob will inform the committee once the proper method is identified for treatment. The City will review segment of the City that would have the greatest benefit for treatment if funds permit.

Larkin Cornett stated that perhaps we could apply for a donation from the Garbry Foundation. Bob asked him to look into this and report to the committee at the next meeting.

ADJOURN

Don made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Regina seconded the motion.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 3, 2012.

Minutes prepared by Bob Graeser, Staff Secretary.