

**TREE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
CITY OF PIQUA, OHIO  
TUESDAY , OCTOBER 29, 2013 – 3:00 P.M.  
MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT COMPLEX – TRIANGLE CONFERENCE ROOM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Larkin Cornett, Brenda Vetter, Judy Terry, Jesse Dotson and Regina Favorite

MEMBERS ABSENT: Steve Trostel

SPECIAL GUEST: None

STAFF PRESENT: Bob Graeser

**MEETING MINUTES**

Judy Terry moved to approve the October 16, 2013 meeting minutes and Brenda Vetter seconded the motion.

**2014 PROPOSED AGENDA**

Bob Graeser first spoke about the City's continued effort to take care of the dying Ash tree as well as the hazard trees. He said that the City will continue to remove these dying trees in the right of way until all are removed. He was careful to mention that this effort does not extend to the linear park, and the other parks within the City. These trees are being monitored. However, the street trees are of particular interest because of the damage that can be done to pedestrians and vehicles in the parking lanes.

Next year Bob said he is going to become more active in the Community Advisory Council (CAC) with a particular interest in eradicating invasive species within the City. The two major concerns would be the *Ailanthus altissima* or Tree of Heaven, and the Honeysuckle. These weed trees are nearly everywhere and are preventing the growth of other natural species along the parks and wooded areas. The CAC group has been active within the community in the advancement of the preservation of our water ways and also the preservation of other natural resources within the City limits.

2014 will be a new year of more collaboration with Upper Valley Career Center students. Bob has already scheduled more upcoming events with the Environmental Occupations class for the removal of the Ash Trees at Echo Hills Golf Course. This will be an aggressive removal which will include the removing of over 30 large trees from the old section of the course. Beginning this fall, the students from the Upper Valley C.C., with the assistance of the Public Works Department, will start the process with the hope of removing all of the trees by the end of 2014. The City is working with the Upper Valley C.C. to partner with them in an effort to help with other projects that the students can use as a land lab and at the same time renewing their community.

### **SPECIAL AGENDA ITEM**

There was a discussion in regard to the time of the meetings. Bob asked the committee if the time could be changed since the attendance has been better when we have the meetings at 3:00 pm.

A motion that the City of Piqua Tree Committee change their meeting time to 3:00 pm on the first Thursday of each month was made by Judy Terry and seconded by Brenda Vetter. It was passed by all in attendance. Judy Terry suggested the January meeting be changed from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup>, in order to avoid the holidays.

### **ADJOURN**

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Regina Favorite, and seconded by Jesse Dotson.

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 9, 2014 at 3:00 pm.

Minutes prepared by Bob Graeser, Staff Secretary.