

**TREE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF PIQUA, OHIO
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2014 – 3:00 P.M.
MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT COMPLEX – TRIANGLE CONFERENCE ROOM**

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jesse Dotson

SPECIAL GUEST: None

STAFF PRESENT: Bob Graeser

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting minutes from the October 29, 2013 meeting were approved and passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Bob informed the committee that Steve Trostel has sent a letter of regretfully resigning his position from the Tree Committee. This leaves the committee with five voting members; his position will not be filled.

OLD BUSINESS

Bob Graeser began the meeting with a discussion about the Community Advisory Council (CAC) and their desire to remove the evasive species along the hydraulic canal. Don Freisthler the City of Piqua, Water Plant Superintendant asked Bob to look into the work that the committee wanted to do. The CAC wants to remove all the Ailanthus altissima, Tree of Heaven, and the Lonicera maackii honeysuckle along the hydraulic canal, to better promote a cleaner levy area. The work is scheduled to take place sometime later in the year.

UPPER VALLEY CAREER CENTER

Last year the students of Upper Valley Career Center, Environmental Occupations Class, under the direction of their instructor Jim Mets, were able to remove five dead, or nearly dead Ash Trees from Echo Hills Golf course. The hope is to remove more trees over the winter months when the ground is unfrozen and the temperatures are conducive for outdoor work.

There are over 30 trees that need to be removed from the golf course and the students are hoping to remove them within the next couple of years. Bob said that he would be working with the group to remove the trees when the weather and ground conditions permit the work to be done.

ARBOR DAY

Bob informed the committee that he hopes to have the Arbor Day celebration with the kindergartners of Nicklin Learning Center again this year. He said that he would like to have it on the last Friday in April. He will work with the school system to see if this can be arranged.

ST. RT. 36 Beatification Project

Bob said the project ended late in the construction season last year, so there is some more work to be completed in the spring, such as, reseeding and grading that could not be done due to the winter weather.

There was some discussion on how the landscaping will be maintained, and who was going to take care of the area.

Bob said that he had introduced the new Landscape Management Instructor of the Upper Valley Career Center to Brian Brookhart of the Public Works Department, in the effort to have a foster relationship of having the students adopting this area as a land lab to help the City manage this area. Bob said that he does not know if any arrangements have been made to date.

ADJOURN

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Judy Terry, and seconded by Regina Favorite.

The next meeting will be held Thursday, April 3, 2013 at 3:00 pm.

Minutes prepared by Bob Graeser, Staff Secretary.