

**TREE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF PIQUA, OHIO
WEDNESDAY APRIL 3, 2019 – 4:00 P.M.
ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE ROOM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Trostel, Randi Simon-Serey, and Mary Tolman

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kris Lee

GUEST:

STAFF PRESENT: Bob Graeser

MEETING MINUTES

Steve Trostel motioned to accept the minutes from February 2019 meeting. Randi Simon-Serey seconded the motion.

UPDATE ON BARE ROOTS

Bob informed the Committee that 30 bare root trees have been ordered and should be delivered the week of April 8th. The holes will be dug in the right of way April 22nd and the trees are scheduled to be planted on April 23rd.

Bob visited a similar program in Washington Courthouse to see how a bare root program works in actuality. Bare root trees are lighter and faster to move around and plant than ball-and-burlap or container trees. Some extra care needs to be taken to dip the roots in a Tera Sorb or Soil Moist and then keep the trees out of sunlight until they are planted. The roots also need to be kept moist.

Green Resources Nursery Sales, LLC has shipped 10 Syringa ret Japanese Tree Lilac, 10 Acer plat Royal Red Maple, and 10 Tilia am Frontyard® Linden. The trees are about 10' tall. With freight, the trees averaged about \$50 each.

Sky Schelle will send out flyers to home owners of properties that meet the criteria. The criteria include a low density of street trees in the area, a 4' planting space, and no wires above where the trees would be planted.

After interested home owners respond, Bob will survey the properties and make sure the tree locations won't become obstruction problems in the future. He will then contact OUPS (Ohio Utilities Protection Service) to have the utilities located on the selected locations.

Randi Simon-Serey offered to photo document the trees. Bob said he will let her know the locations of the trees once he gets a list.

Steve Trostel said the mass replanting of trees is raising the cost of trees. He suggested an option that may save money on bigger trees in the future. If the city gets a wholesale nursery

license, then trees can be purchased at wholesale price and the city can also use its tax-exemption.

Bob told the Committee about Wendi Van Buren's Instagram page called Instagram Tree ID. If you go to Ohio Tree ID, Wendi will send you pictures of trees and information about them. Wendi is the District Urban Forester.

VIDEO ON URBAN FORESTS

The Committee watched a video on urban forests. According to the video disadvantaged communities have the lowest percentages of trees and have higher temperatures and more cases of asthma. Urban trees cool the air, filter air pollution, absorb storm water runoff, and prevent water pollution from entering water sources. There is a strong correlation between tree cover, lower crime rates and improved community health. The average life span of an urban tree is 7-15 years.

After the video Bob talked about the importance of tree management in urban forests. When choosing a street tree you have to think about what will happen in the future. What will it do to the curb and utilities? Will it get too large for the space? Will it drop bad fruit and leaf litter?

OTHER INFORMATION

Bob said the trees in Canal Place will be removed because they are causing litter on cars and are interfering with wires overhead. The trees will not be replanted at this time, this parking area will be redesigned for future use.

ADJOURN

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Randi Simon-Serey, and Steve Trostel seconded the motion.

Minutes prepared by Bob Graeser, Staff Secretary.