

**TREE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF PIQUA, OHIO
TUESDAY OCTOBER 8, 2019 – 4:00 P.M.
ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE ROOM**

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kris Lee

GUEST: Steve Yenney

STAFF PRESENT: Bob Graeser

MEETING MINUTES

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

COMMUNITY CANOPY PROGRAM

The Community Canopy Program is a project run by the Storm Water Coordinator, Sky Schelle. The program involves planting water interceptor trees on private property to reduce storm water runoff. The trees are free to the property owner.

All of the 100 trees available for the program have been given away.

The 100 trees will save 1855 kWh and 14381 gallons of storm water in 5 years. After 20 years, they will save 40,000 kWh and 358,000 gallons.

BARE ROOT PROGRAM

Bob said Sky is working on the 2020 Bare Root Program. Steve Trostel said bare root trees do very well when they are planted in March and April while they are still dormant.

Steve Trostel also suggested planting the ball & burlap trees in October, November or December while they are dormant.

OTHER INFORMATION

Bob stated that he will be speaking at the Master Gardener's April 2020 meeting.

The Committee discussed the new planting that was done on State Route 36 between the mall and the river. The landscape contractor will take care of the slopes until the end of 2020, and then the City takes over the care.

Steve Yenney asked if the Tree Committee was involved in the Bank Stabilization Project at the Golf Course in 2011. Bob said the Tree Committee was not involved. Bob said the objective of the project was to stabilize the banks to keep silt from running into the lakes.

Steve Trostel saw on Wendi Van Buren's Urban Forestry Updates that Tree City USA has a new online application portal.

Steve Trostel is going to contact the Dean at Edison Community College. Steve is trying to get Edison involved in Tree Campus USA. To qualify for Tree Campus USA, Edison would need a Student Tree Board that is overseen by an Edison staff member, have 5-7 members, have a tree planting program, recognize Arbor Day, and they have to meet a standardized proposed budget. He would like to invite them to a Tree Committee meeting in the spring so they can see how the Committee operates.

Steve Yenney asked if Bob received the email that was sent to him. Bob said he had received the email.

Steve Yenney asked about the process to complain about a nuisance tree. Bob stated that trees on private property are considered a civil complaint and the City will not get involved. Steve Yenney pointed out part of the tree code that mentioned nuisance trees on private property. Bob explained that only applies to trees on private property that are a hazard to streets, sidewalks and public utilities in the right-of-way.

Bob said that if he is made aware of hazard trees he will take a look at them and decide if anything needs to be done about the situation. He will take a look at a tree on the golf course at Steve Yenney's request. Bob stated that any fallen tree that is laying in the woods at the golf course will remain because it's not a hazard.

Steve Yenney said that the City website needs more information.

ADJOURN

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Steve Trostel, and Mary Tolman seconded the motion.

Minutes prepared by Bob Graeser, Staff Secretary.