

**TREE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF PIQUA, OHIO
MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2021 – 4:00 P.M.
ZOOM MEETING**

MEMBERS PRESENT: April Dankworth, Randi Simon-Serey, and Kris Lee

MEMBERS ABSENT: Steve Trostel, and Mary Tolman

GUEST: Kyrsten French

STAFF PRESENT: Bob Graeser

MEETING MINUTES

Randi Simon-Serey motioned to accept the minutes from the September 2020 meeting. April Dankworth seconded the motion.

2021 PLANNING

Bob said that funding was approved for design and Phase I of the Street Tree Project. CESO will do the landscape design for the project. The project will start on Main Street and consist of replacing the existing trees, repairing/replacing pavers, repairing sidewalks and repainting the tree grates. The trees at The Fort Piqua Plaza will not need to be replaced.

Some of the trees along Main Street are 20 years old and are producing fruit. The fruit is attracting birds, which are leaving bird litter on the pavement. The replacement trees will be different species to add diversity. Bob will keep the Committee updated as the project progresses.

Bob was informed that the requirements for Tree City USA were altered for 2020 because of the Covid-19 pandemic. The City of Piqua was named Tree City USA for 2020. Bob hopes to get another Growth Award for 2021.

Bob updated the Committee on the Bare Root Tree Program. Forty bare root trees will be planted on the north side of High Street, west of Sunset Drive. This planting was originally scheduled for 2020 but was postponed due to Covid-19.

Bob has started working with Tree Care on the 2021 Hazard Tree Program. The program removes Ash trees and hazardous trees that located in the right-of-way.

OTHER BUSINESS

Kyrsten said that the Middle Great Miami Watershed Alliance funded the clearing of honeysuckle between the Great Miami River and the Great Miami River Trail. The volunteers started near Roadside Park.

Kyrsten hopes to have the Code Piqua section that relates to trees ready in a month. She will try to get copies to the Committee. Bob clarified that Code Piqua tree section will apply to tree that are not in the right-of-way.

ADJOURN

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

Minutes prepared by Bob Graeser, Staff Secretary.