

**TREE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF PIQUA, OHIO
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2021 – 4:00 P.M.
ZOOM MEETING**

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kris Lee, and April Dankworth

GUEST: Kyrsten French

STAFF PRESENT: Bob Graeser

MEETING MINUTES

Randi Simon-Serey motioned to accept the minutes from the January 2021 meeting. Steve Trostel seconded the motion.

STREET TREES PROJECT- PHASE 1

Bob sent the agreement to the landscape architect. The landscape architect and civil engineer will design the project. This year Phase 1 will focus on the downtown area.

Each street will have a different species of tree, but the location of the trees will remain the same. The chosen trees won't produce fruit to attract birds. Some trees will be removed on the northeast corner of E. Water Street and N. Main Street as part of the Main and Water parking lot project.

Bob and Lorna Swisher will visit the people along that corridor to update them on the project. Bob will share the design plans with the Committee Member when he receives them.

Kyrsten asked if silva cells were an option on this project. Bob said that project budget and available space prevents the use of silva cells. Silva cell is a supported pavement system that allows uncompacted soil beneath the paving. This soil layer helps trees grow and manages stormwater. It is cost prohibitive due to the amount of excavation and reconstruction required.

BARE TREE PROJECT

Bob wants to get the bare root trees in late March so they will be ready to plant in April. Bob hopes to get at least 80 trees, 40 of which will be planted on W. High Street. He will have more information about tree species and locations at the next Tree Committee Meeting.

Kyrsten said that a mixture of bare root trees and prairie grass is planned for 1-2 acres located just north of Fountain Park. She has been in contact with Terry Lavy, who planned and implemented the Hobart Urban Nature Preserve in Troy.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS THAT NEED TO REAPPLY IN 2021

April Dankworth's term expires on March 1, 2021 because she filled Diane Hart's unexpired term. April will need to reapply to the Committee. Bob will send her an email.

OTHER BUSINESS

Randi informed the Committee that OSU Master Gardeners has been spreading information about the Spotted Lanternfly. The Spotted Lanternfly is a non-native invasive species that mainly feeds on tree-of-heaven, but will damage other plants native to the area.

ADJOURN

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

Minutes prepared by Bob Graeser, Staff Secretary.