



**Swissvale Shade Tree Advisory Committee
April 11, 2018 meeting minutes**

Members Present: Heather Lyle, Gib Miller, Kirsten Raether, Terry Ward

The meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

***One of the goals for 2018 is for our committee to be recognized as an organization to which one would turn for advice on where to put trees and what kinds of trees to plant.**

- **Recap of March 24 Tree Planting**

The tree planting held on March 24th was extremely successful. The SSTAC signs %Swissvale is a Tree City USA+are still in place. Students from CMU helped to make the planting go extremely quickly. The sign-in list was sent to us from Lauren Fike, the Community Forestry Project Coordinator from the Western PA Conservancy. Kristen will email the volunteers to see if they are willing to help with the April 28th mulching event.

- **Preparation for April Tree Care Event**

We are planning to clean and mulch the tree pits in the following areas on Saturday April 28 from 9:00 a.m. until noon:

- 10 trees off Monongahela at Park Avenue
- 16 trees on Washington Street
- 8 trees on Noble Street

Gib is requesting the DPW to drop off part of the mulch near each of those three areas for a total of 2 ½ yards of mulch. He will also request tools to be borrowed:

The committee will bring water, fruit, and other snacks to be served to the volunteers. Committee members will also bring the seedlings received from the Arbor Day Foundation.

- **How to Manage and Prioritize Tree Request Lists**

Kurt has been handling this particular task. The committee will take a look at the tree requests that didn't get approved for the March planting and put them back on the list. The fall Tree

Pittsburgh application is open and due in May. While the committee should all look over the application, Heather is going to take the lead and see if anything needs to be updated from the last application.

- **Plans to Support Front Yard Trees (seedlings, information packets, etc.)**

The first step is to see if there is an interest in the community for yard trees. An article and questionnaire will be submitted for the next Swissvale newsletter. It must be clear that it will be the homeowner's responsibility to make all utility calls, and for the care and maintenance of the tree.

Other Business:

FYI: Two trees from a previous NMRWA planting were relocated from the Dickson School lawn to street sites on Schoyer and Aurelius. These trees would have been lost during the construction that is to take place in the near future.

- **For the next meeting:**

Kirsten and Heather will look at tree request sites from the hill.

The committee will brainstorm to create a pamphlet on what steps need to happen to plant a tree.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Upcoming Events:

April 28th - Mulching Event

May 5th - Swissvale Parkway Planting at 9:00 a.m.

Rotary Tree Planting

The next meeting is scheduled for May 9th at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Terry Ward