



Swissvale Shade Tree Advisory Committee
June 12, 2019 meeting minutes

Members Present: Gib Miller, Kirsten Raether, Mike Takas, Terry Ward
NMRWA liaison: Jan Raether
Visitor: Julie Mountain

The meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

- **Next actions for Tree Vitalize application**

Gib reported that 5 trees have been approved for a fall planting. Brian told Gib it would be possible for Swissvale to submit more sites for approval. Greg Bachy signed off on additional locations. Gib is scanning site locations to add to the application. Included are 1-2 trees at Memorial Field, 3-5 trees at Park Place. There are also some areas on Schoyer and Aurelius by Dickson School that are good locations for additional trees.

- **Next SSTAC event**

The spring pruning event was already held this year. The committee is looking for additional activities for this fall. Pruning can occur at the same time as planting and/or mulching. Ideas include:

- Tree planting
- Mulching and weeding the bus way
- Mulching and weeding in Regent Square
- Having a presence with activities for next year's Swissvale Community Days

- **Swissvale Community Days 6/14-15**

The committee will consider participating with an activity and information at next year's Community Days.

- **Church and Braddock update**

The park will be Veterans Park. The War Memorial currently located at the Swissvale Borough Building will be moved to the park. The American Legion made a generous donation to do this.

- **Comments about trees I've heard in the borough**

Gib reported that he is getting positive feedback on the work of this committee.

- **Other topics**

- The trees on the bus way are looking like they need attention. Jan may try to test the soil to identify what is causing the problem.
- Julie suggested we ask stores to put signs in windows advertising our need for volunteers at our upcoming events.
- Gib put protective fencing around the little trees at Park Place. He has been checking on them.
- Jan reported that NMRWA has funding for storm water tree pits. The committee encouraged him to let the Borough of Swissvale know about this when he next meets with them.

For the next meeting, members should keep their eyes open for additional sites for trees.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55.