



Swissvale Shade Tree Advisory Committee

February 12, 2020 meeting minutes

Members present: Gib Miller, Julie Ann Mountain, Kurt Summerhill, Mike Takacs, Terry Ward

The meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

- **Minutes from January 8, 2020 meeting**

The minutes from the last meeting were read and approved.

- **Tree tags**

Julia Ann created a template for the tree tags to be put on recently planted trees. The tags will contain the tree name, Latin name, and planting date. Included on the tag will be the names and logos of the groups responsible for planting the trees- Swissvale Shade Tree Advisory Committee, the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, and Nine Mile Run Watershed Association. Julie Anne will email the mock-ups to the group. Gib has a laminator and plastic sleeves to use to laminate the tags. It was suggested that the tags will be attached with twine. Gib also reminded us that the Swissvale Rotary was the main funder for the trees at Church and Braddock.

- **Date and focus for the first SSTAC event in the spring**

March 28th was suggested as the first TREE CARE EVENT sponsored by the SSTAC. This can be a pruning event for the trees on the corner of Church and Braddock and the cherry trees on Washington Avenue. We will ask Jan to put something on the NMRWA website to get volunteers.

Plans will be finalized at the next meeting on March 11th.

- **Plans for a small tree planting event in the late spring**

Gib looked into bare root trees. The trees are at most 2-3 feet tall, which can be a problem since they will need more attention. The prices run from \$5 - \$20 per tree. Tree Pittsburgh has trees in five gallon containers. Kurt will send out emails to the people on our list who desire a tree to confirm that they do indeed want a tree.

- **Tree Vitalize application for Fall 2020**

We don't have sites at this time.

- **Arbor Day Event**

Our Arbor Day Event will be the event on March 28th. We will have the new proclamation for Arbor Day read on that day. We will need to get in touch with the mayor as soon as we finalize our plans.

- **Other business**

The busway trees were discussed. What is causing this damage? Gib will contact Jan to see if something can be done for these trees.

Gib will be stopping by to talk to Greg Bachy about the borough contributing to the purchase of trees and top soil. We will need to remove the old soil from the tree pits.

Next meeting: March 11th at 7:00 p.m. at the Wilkins School Community Center.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30.