



**Swissvale Shade Tree Advisory Committee  
November 11, 2020 meeting minutes**

**Members Present:** Gib Miller, Julie Ann Mountain, Kurt Summersgill, Terry Ward  
**Other Attendees:** Jan Raether- NMRWA, Melissa Jenereski

**The meeting started at 7:00 PM and was held via Zoom.**

**October Tree Planting**

On Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> the Swissvale Shade Tree Advisory Committee held a tree event. Six trees were planted and mulched at Park Avenue, adding to Swissvale's urban canopy. In preparation for winter, trees planted by the committee over the past year were assessed. This led to planting and mulching a new tree at the parklet on Church and Braddock and an additional small tree on Harrison Ave. to be replaced staked, and mulched. Thanks to Tree Pittsburgh for the trees, the Borough of Swissvale for the mulch and Nine Mile Run Watershed Association for providing assistance and necessary equipment for use by the committee.

**Tree Vitalize Application**

As per our August meeting, Greg Bachy received a resolution from Swissvale Council to put in an application to Tree Vitalize. Gib completed and submitted the application on September 8th. At this time, Tree Vitalize still needs to meet with Greg Bachy to assess the final location for new tree pits to be prepared by DPW for trees to be planted on Waverly, Noble, and Washington as part of the streetscape project. New tree pits will also need to be prepared for three trees on Harrison Ave. The utilities will need to be marked before the final approval and confirmation of tree pit sites. Now that a new borough manager has been hired, Greg Bachy will be freed up to attend to this. He has assured Gib that the tree pits will be done.

**SSTAC Pruning Event**

Since pruning is best done during the colder weather, a more likely time for assessing and pruning trees in the borough will be set after the holidays.

**2021 Tree City Application**

The deadline for the 2021 Tree City application is February 1<sup>st</sup>. This topic will be discussed in detail at our next meeting on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **Other Business**

The Spotted Lanternfly has been found outside the watershed. Recognizing and reporting this destructive insect is imperative. An article on the Spotted Lanternfly will be written and submitted to the *Swissvalian* to educate Swissvale residents. Jan will provide some information to Terry for the article.

The committee will continue to observe community trees to identify dead trees in need of removal. Also, they will look for areas in which additional trees could be planted. Sunrise Academy, St. Lawrence Street, and Hampton Street were areas suggested for future plantings.

**The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.**

**Next meeting: December 9th at 7:00.**