



Swissvale Shade Tree Advisory Committee

September 9, 2020 meeting minutes

Members Present: Gib Miller, Julie Ann Mountain, Mike Takacs, Terry Ward

Other Attendees: Jan Raether- NMRWA, Melissa Jenereski

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

The meeting began by introducing and welcoming Melissa to the meeting. Welcome back, Melissa! We are happy to have you back!

Tree Vitalize Application

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.

On August 31st, using a map from the business district tree scape, Gib and Terry met with Brian Cooks from Tree Vitalize to show him the locations for the 36 trees listed on the Swissvale application. 4 trees are designated for Harrison Street, one replacement tree is on Washington, and the remaining 31 trees are in the business district. The Borough of Swissvale has agreed to cut the tree pits and replace the soil, probably during the fall of 2020. Brian felt that this was a sizeable contribution from the borough that could weigh in our favor. The utilities will need to be marked before the final approval and confirmation of trees. Greg Bachy has agreed to do this and meet with Gib and Brian. Due to Covid 19, Tree Vitalize has limited plantings to 25 trees.

The committee discussed the need for recruiting Swissvale residents to help with the planting of the trees, if and when the application is approved. Volunteers from SEDCO, the Rotary, and business owners, along with Swissvale residents will be asked to help.

Next SSTAC Event

Tree Pittsburgh has organized a tree give away for October 17th. Gib, Julie Ann, Kurt, and Terry signed up for 2 trees each. The committee planned to plant these trees at Park Avenue on Saturday, October 24th. At that time, some of the smaller trees may be transplanted. It was discussed that in November, necessary pruning will be done and

additional tree tags will be hung. Julie Ann will work on creating the tree tags for these new trees as well as the other trees on Harrison that were not labeled.

Next meeting: October 14th at 7:00. Be prepared to discuss the tree planting event to take place during the next weekend.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.