



Swissvale Shade Tree Advisory Commission Meeting

14 April 2021

Members Present: Gib Miller, Julie Ann Mountain, Perry Recker, Kurt Summersgill.

Other Attendees: Jan Raether - NMRWA,

The meeting began at 7:10 p.m.

1. Meeting minutes and periodic articles for the Swissvalian. Perry Recker will take notes. Terry has submitted an article to Swissvalian for the next issue (May/June).
2. Recap from April 6th tree planting with WPC: It went very well. Excellent preparatory work by Greg and DPW. Gib will send them thank you, and possibly in newsletter as well.
3. Plans for submitting an application for a Fall 2021 TreeVitalize planting grant: More trees for fall to be requested in June. Mostly for spots on Washington. Some smaller trees planted last year are not doing well, e.g. Harrison, perhaps should be replaced. 3 by 10 ft pits are optimal. Everyone when out and about should have a look at the small trees planted last year. Universal Academy of Pittsburgh on the hill by Hampton has some good spots. Past minimum has been about 10. Hawthorne could use some street trees, though there are wire problems. We will try to make up a list by June for WPC.
4. 2020 Tree City USA award for Swissvale. Celine from DNR dropped off Tree City signs. We can put them up on Arbor day along with the tree tags. We will plan it for Saturday May 1st 2pm. Meet on Aurelius side of Dickson STEAM Academy. Tag those on Harrison first, then move to the other spots.
5. Coordination with Universal Academy of Pittsburgh. Mike and Gib met with the PTA org at UAP. They have some that had to be removed. There is room on St. Lawrence, but the curb is probably too poor. A side with pines may have room for more. There is also a borough park in one corner, but property lines need to be checked first. We should be able to get WPC interested in at least 4 or 5 there.
6. Opportunities for coordination with Landforce and Bidwell Training Center was tabled, but keep this in mind for future manpower. Cynthia proposed the idea. There is a project to build a hiking trail from Collingwood park to Carrie Furnace on the table which might be good for a collaborative project. More on this later.
7. Tree Inventory homework: On google doc site and Open Tree Map. Julie Ann. has been playing with the latter. Swissvale street trees were loaded in as a population from the NMR tree inventory, not as a project. Open pits are still listed where trees have been moved. Keeping any inventory up to date is difficult, multiple ones even harder. For SSTAC homework, feel free to pick a few streets near you to verify the accuracy of the tree inventory. Any changes made to our google docs inventory should have the date entered under update (far left column). Jan has access to mapping software to assist with verifying the tree inventory.

Gib adjourned the meeting at 7:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Perry R.