



## Swissvale Shade Tree Advisory Commission Meeting

May 12 2021

**Members Present:** Gib Miller, Julie Ann Mountain, Cynthia Pagesh, Kurt Summersgill.

**Other Attendees:** Jan Raether – Upstream Pittsburgh

The meeting began at 7:04 p.m.

1. Recap from May 1st Arbor Day event: Proclamation was read by Gib, Mayor Deneen Swartzweler will sign for Swissvale. Tree tags were placed on additional trees near Dickson and on Harrison Ave. 5-year Tree City USA stickers were put on existing signs.
2. Julie Ann is going to prepare additional tree tags. The list of tags needs to be reviewed and supplemented as necessary. Please look around.
3. Plans for submitting an application for a Fall 2021 TreeVitalize planting grant: More trees for fall to be requested by deadline of June 1. Western Pennsylvania Conservancy (WPC) has sent out an email link to fill out the form. Current application will include replacement trees for 7132 and 7134 Harrison Ave, one tree for empty tree pit on McCague Street, up to twelve trees for the Swissvale StreetScape on Washington Ave and potentially trees for Universal Academy Pittsburgh. A tree request from UAP is still needed.
4. We would like to plan a tree pit cleaning mulching before the weather gets too hot. Initial thoughts are sometime in June covering trees in the business district (Noble and Washington) other than the ones that were recently planted.
5. Gib is going to coordinate with WPC and Greg Bachy about watering for the recently planted trees. Jan identified that Upstream Pittsburgh may have enough tree bags to borrow for the new business district trees.
6. Th Busway trees along Edgewood Avenue are looking a little better after all the recent rain, but our committee needs to coordinate with Upstream Pittsburgh, Swissvale DPW and Port Authority Transit to determine whether future actions are viable to improve the health of the trees. The logistics are more complicated here because of the divided responsibility for the area and the original project where the trees were planted. Jan identified that this may be appropriate to include in a future Upstream Pittsburgh grant application or an experimental effort to drive more street runoff water into these tree pits.
7. Tree Inventory homework: On Google doc site and Open Tree Map. For SSTAC homework, feel free to pick a few streets near you to verify the accuracy of the tree inventory. Perry emailed updates/corrections to Gib that still need to be entered. 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 7:40 pm.