

Swissvale Shade Tree Advisory Committee

April 13, 2016

Members present: Melissa Jenereski, Gib Miller, Kurt Summersgill, Terry Ward

Absent: Matt Mercurio, Heather Lyle

Others present: Jared Manzo, Greenlinks Coordinator, NMRWA

The meeting began at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Tree Inventory

The committee sees a tree inventory as vital in order to create long range plans for Swissvale trees. This information is necessary to get funding and provides necessary data indicating where there is a need for trees in the Swissvale urban canopy coverage. All public trees and street trees in the Borough of Swissvale would be updated in the survey.

Two available inventories were done by volunteers in 2005 and 2010.

While another volunteer survey is a possibility, it would not provide the extensive information provided by a professional survey. A volunteer survey could provide information about size, type, and quantities of trees. A professional survey would give more detailed information including the condition of trees, mapping, GPS to pinpoint types, etc.

Wilkinsburg will be voting on the professional inventory at the April meeting.

Celine Colbert from DCNR will attend the next Swissvale Shade Tree Advisory Committee meeting on May 11th to discuss what the DCNR can provide for Swissvale. The committee is to prepare questions for her for this meeting.

Shade Tree Webpage

The second priority of this committee is the establishment of the webpage. Melissa will be in touch with Matt to work on it.

Suggestions for the webpage from the February meeting included:

- Mission
- Vision
- calendar of events
- upcoming events
- map of streets with trees
- important links including:
 - Nine Mile Run Watershed Association
 - Tree Vitalize
- application for street trees

Melissa will be putting ideas on a google.doc for the committee to review and for added suggestions.

Other business:

SSTAC meetings will be set the 2nd Wednesday of every month at the Wilkins School Community Center. The meetings will now be made public so residents can attend. The committee will be available to answer questions with regards to the tree ordinance.

Things to do before the next meeting:

- *Write questions to ask Celine Colbert from DCNR
- *Read and add more detail to the Tree Guidelines/add stump removal guidelines
- *Add suggestions to Melissa's ideas for the webpage
- *Review the current inventory shared in google.docs

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00.

Next meeting: May 11

Minutes prepared by Terry Ward