

The meeting of the Village of Grosse Pointe Shores Tree Board was held on Tuesday, January 27, 2015. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Brett Marshall at 7:34 a.m.

Present were: Brett Marshall, Chairperson
 Rob Squiers, GPSIF Representative
 Brett Smith, DPW Director
 Harold Michaux, GPS Grounds Supervisor
 Helen Bai, Beautification Comm. Chairperson
 Vicky Boyce, Committee Member
 Lynn Michaux, GPS Admin. Assistant/Secretary

Also Present: None

Absent: Daniel Schulte, Council Liaison

Reports related to this meeting are either attached or placed on file.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 14, 2014 MEETING

The minutes of the October 14, 2014 meeting were unanimously approved as submitted on motion by Ms. Bai and supported by Mr. Squiers.

2014 GENERAL TREE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM - RECAP

Mr. Smith reported there was no general tree trimming/maintenance done for 2014, trimming concentrated mainly on Lochmoor and the removal of 56 trees throughout the Village. Mr. Smith stated the department will pick up with trimming in Zone 1 located at the far North end of the City and is the least expensive Zone. Mr. Smith stated \$31,000 was spent on tree services for 2014 comparing that figure to \$59,000 in 1982. An original Grosse Pointe Shores Tree Evaluation Report dated 1990 conducted by Chuck Irish, was discovered and will be held by Brett Marshall, Chairman. Mr. Michaux stated that the pine trees on Belle Meade and Ballantyne were not removed as originally slated for 2014. Mr. Marshall stated he was unaware and will make sure they are removed this spring.

2014 FALL TREE PLANTING PROGRAM

Mr. Marshall stated the Fall Tree Planting Program was delayed and pushed back this year and planting will take place in the spring as it was too late to plant in December. Mr. Marshall stated a few residents were disappointed but are slated to plant 21 trees. The Foundation is budgeted for 25 trees so will continue on track. Ms. Bai questioned if the delay will affect planting in the Fall, Mr. Marshall stated it will not and that he already has one resident interested for Fall 2015. Mr. Marshall stated that this does not affect Tree City status in any way as there is no limit of trees to be planted to qualify. Mr. Marshall also stated there seems to be no "blank spaces" for trees to be planted and all

requests by residents are granted. Ms. Bai commented with 56 trees being removed and 21 being replaced mostly on easements and the Fall/Spring tree planting, we are catching up well.

Mr. Michaux commented on the N. Edgewood trees, Mr. Marshall stated they are suffering from "Root Rot" decay. 4 trees have come down already and are replacing with a similar species to continue on the arch affect the street is known for. Ms. Boyce questioned if the soil sustains the root rot and will affect the new trees being planted. Mr. Marshall indicated it will not affect the new trees that the root rot attacks older and certain types. It was agreed to stick with a similar species of tree such as the "Kentucky Coffee" suggested by Mr. Marshall. Mr. Marshall has talked to the residents and 4 trees will be planted this Fall.

TREE CITY USA STATUS

The 2015 application for Tree City USA status was submitted on December 8, 2014, and status should be received after the first of the year.

2015 ARBOR DAY THEME – May 3, 2015

Ms. Bai stated she would like to continue with the Children's program by selecting young trees within the park, as has been done for the last two years, where a specific type of tree is concentrated on, supplying substantial information and incorporating different learning activities for children and residents. She stated the Wilson and Ford trees could be highlighted as they are young trees and planted at last year's event.

It was agreed upon again this year to keep the route of the Fun Run at the North end from the park to the Ford Estate and back. Keeping the route shorter is in-line with the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Public Works. Mr. Marshall commented on the low attendance the past few years. The 2014 flyer was updated and promoted both Arbor Day and the Fun Run quite well and the event is recognized on the web site, cable channel and park sign so it is being advertised to the residents. He stated that as long as we are having an observance we are keeping up with our obligation for Tree City status. Mr. Squiers inquired as to if it might be a good idea to invite Boy and/or Girl Scout troops in the community who may need to fulfill badge requirements. Mr. Marshall stated he will order more informational tree pamphlets as they have been displaced for the past two years.

Ms. Michaux will contact Dan Stahl regarding his interest in donating t-shirts again this year. It was agreed upon to keep the shirt a bright color and omit the year from the shirt so they can be for years to come and worn by seasonal part-time employees.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

NEXT BOARD MEETING

It was noted that the next Board meeting will be held at 7:30 a.m., Tuesday, April 8, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10

Lynn Michaux, Secretary