

The meeting of the Village of Grosse Pointe Shores Tree Board was held on Tuesday, January 10, 2012. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Brett Marshall at 7:32 a.m.

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

Absent: Brian P. Vick, City Manager

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 11, 2011 MEETING

The minutes of the October 11, 2011 meeting were unanimously approved as submitted on motion by Mr. Squires, supported by Ms. Bai. Mr. Marshall welcomed Bruce Bisballe as the new council liaison.

2011 GENERAL TREE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Mr. Smith reported that there is no active maintenance program currently. The city has been conducting hazard and storm damage trimming and removal only. Several trees have been damaged and or removed due to the significant storm damage this past season and has taken up quite a bit of the maintenance program budget. Mr. Michaux stated there is still stumping to be completed on Hampton and Edgewood. Mr. Smith commented that the department will do some clearance trimming of trees to allow for snow plow clearance. Mr. Squiers questioned if it was possible to shift some of the snow removal budget to tree maintenance. Mr. Smith explained that the city is on a four year turnaround related to storm damage. Where as, it has been minimal the last few years and quite significant in 2011; winter salt has been the savings this year.

RECAP OF 2011 FALL TREE PLANTING PROGRAM

It was noted that the 2011 Fall Tree Planting Program included the planting of 14 trees by Marine City Contractor. Mr. Marshall will forward the invoice for the trees totaling \$3,150 (\$225 per tree, warranted one year) to Lynn Galbenski/GPSIF for payment. Ms. Bai questioned in such cases as a car strikes a tree and it has to be replaced, does the same kind of tree have to be planted in its place. Mr. Smith and Mr. Marshall both responded by saying the Police Department contacts the insurance company, a quote is received and any other acceptable tree is permitted.

STATUS OF THE "TREE CITY USA" APPLICATION PROCESS

Mr. Marshall stated he received confirmation of the City's on-line application for recertification. The renewal should arrive in February. This will be the 7th year Grosse Pointe Shores has Tree City USA status.

2012 ARBOR DAY THEME

It was noted that the City's observance of Arbor Day is scheduled for May 6, 2012, held in conjunction with the annual "Spring Fun Run". Helen Bai suggested an observance of the Birch tree and its different species in honor of the new River Birch planted at the park this season. Children's activities will be included as in the past. Ms. Bai also inquired about more publicity for the Arbor Day portion of this event. Ms. Boyce agreed and suggested reconstructing the flyer. Brett Smith will also have a Storm Water Presentation table as part of the requirement for Water Shed Public Education status.

OLD BUSINESS

Rob Squiers presented the new expanded Approved Tree list. Mr. Squiers contacted the City of Ann Arbor's Forrester who was very excited and willing to share his Approved Tree list with Grosse Pointe Shores. Mr. Squiers stated it closely mirrors our list but is a little more inclusive with a few more varieties giving GPS more diversity. Mr. Squiers also provided an Unapproved Tree list. He proposed the list to the Board and asked for any suggestions or changes be made. Mr. Smith commented that the Birch tree is listed as one for Right of Way application and stated this tree may not be suitable for some locations. Ms. Boyce suggested a disclaimer be added to the list stating certain trees may not be suitable for some locations. Mr. Squiers stated he will make the appropriate changes.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Marshall noted to the members, as Chairman he would like to keep the Board and its Members in place as in reappointing Robert Squiers, Helen Bai and Vicky Boyce for two year terms and will contact Mayor Kedzierski for confirmation.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

It was noted that the next Board meeting will be held at 7:30 a.m., April 10, 2012.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:08

Lynn Michaux, Secretary