

The meeting of the Village of Grosse Pointe Shores Tree Board was held on Tuesday, January 8, 2013. 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, GPS Beautification Comm. Chairperson
 Bruce Bisballe, Council Liaison
 Lynn Michaux, GPS Admin. Assistant/Secretary

Absent: Vicky Boyce, Committee Member
 Mark Wollenweber, City Manager

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 16, 2012 MEETING

The minutes of the October 16, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved as submitted on motion by Mr. Squires, supported by Ms. Bai.

2012 GENERAL TREE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Mr. Smith reported that there is no active maintenance program currently. The city has been conducting minimal hazard and storm damage trimming and removal only. Mr. Marshall asked Mr. Bisballe if there was any money the Council could allocate to the regular tree maintenance program. Mr. Smith stated the program costs approximately \$15,000 annually but could select specific projects and do only what needs to be done. The maintenance program consists of four zones completing one zone a year which would reduce storm damage maintenance in the long run. Four years ago the maintenance program was halted and went to necessity trimming only. Mr. Bisballe feels the Council could find money for the program as they have been trying to catch up on things that were deferred previously.

RECAP OF 2012 FALL TREE PLANTING PROGRAM

It was noted that the 2012 Fall Tree Planting Program included the planting of 23 trees in November by Marine City Contractor at the cost of \$225 per tree at a total of \$5,300 planted and guaranteed for one year. The number is up from last year with the planting of 14 trees. Mr. Marshall. Mr. Smith complimented the work of Marice City Contractor and how well they work with the city and keeping their pricing affordable. Brett Marshall stated they will keep things status quo with the contractor. Mr. Smith commended the quick response of Public Safety Director Schulte in relation to auto accidents and such damaging trees and filing insurance claims to recoup the costs of replacements.

“TREE CITY USA” STATUS

Mrs. Michaux reported the application for recertification of Tree City USA status has been submitted. The renewal should arrive in February. This will be the 8th year Grosse Pointe Shores has Tree City USA status. Mr. Marshall stated that we are 1 in 3,000 cities that participate in the Tree City program.

2013 ARBOR DAY THEME

It was noted that the City’s observance of Arbor Day is scheduled for May 5, 2013, held in conjunction with the annual “Spring Fun Run”. Helen Bai suggested an observance of the young trees at the park incorporating different children’s activities related to the growth process. She suggested planting a Tulip tree at the park that is currently being stored in the holding bin behind the DPW garage. Helen also commented that the 2012 Arbor Day event was poorly attended.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Smith discussed the necessity of tree trimming at the park; specifically 4 to 5 Willow trees with a lot of large dead wood. The trees have not been trimmed in years and require regular maintenance. Mr. Bisballe suggested Mr. Smith discuss the matter with Mr. Wollenweber to allocate some of the funds to tree trimming at the park for this purpose. Mr. Michaux stated there is a dead Linden tree that needs removal and possibly one Willow near the maintenance garage. Mr. Smith will locate the quote Dittman Tree Service previously submitted for removal to see if they will stand by their price. Mr. Michaux suggested taking a walk through of the park with Mr. Marshall.

NEW BUSINESS

Helen Bai questioned Mr. Smith about the fence damage to the park fence at the corner of Lake Shore and Vernier. Mr. Smith stated repair should be completed in the next few weeks.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

It was noted that the next Board meeting will be held at 7:30 a.m., April 9, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00

Lynn Michaux, Secretary