

The meeting of the Village of Grosse Pointe Shores Tree Board was held on Tuesday, July 9, 2013. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Brett Marshall at 7:35 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: Mark Wollenweber, City Manager

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 9, 2013 MEETING

The minutes of the April 9, 2013 meeting on motion by Mr. Squiers and seconded by Mrs. Bai were unanimously approved.

REVIEW OF 2013 ARBOR DAY EVENT – May 5, 2013

Mrs. Bai reported there were more children and young families in attendance this year. Ms. Michaux stated there were approximately 120 participants that either ran, walked or rollerbladed. Mr. Marshall commented that the GPSIF would like more input on the flyer for next year to include more information about Arbor Day and the planting of a tree.

2013 GENERAL TREE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Mr. Smith thanked Brett Marshall for working with him on a tree check over the fourth of July weekend. He reported that normal tree removals have been fewer than in previous years. Mr. Smith advised that the removal of Hawthorne Rd. Ash Trees have been forthcoming and he recommends that all 40 trees be removed. He stated they are all in various degrees of infestation and decline. With researching pricing he was able to have the trees removed and stumped at a price of \$90 each totaling \$3,600. Mr. Smith noted he is aware that this will dramatically change the characteristic of the street and asked the board for suggestions on re-planting. Mr. Squiers stated the GPSIF has set aside a budget of approximately \$4,000 to \$5,000 for tree planting. He commented that originally some of the ash trees were planted too close together and we may not need to plant as many replacements. Ms. Boyce questioned whether the GPSIF splits the cost with the Village, Mr. Marshall stated the trees are fully funded by the GPSIF. Mr. Smith suggested waiting until Fall as it is closer to planting time and also suggested doing a letter or phone call to Hawthorne residents advising them of the situation. Mr.

Bisballe commented that if the GPSIF could not fully fund this project, the Village would cover the balance. Mr. Marshall stated he and Mr. Squiers would oversee the project.

Mr. Smith also recommended the removal of the 10 Ash and Pear trees located near the dog park due to disease at a cost of \$1,850. Mr. Smith noted that this too will dramatically change the character of this area but feels it necessary for safety reasons. Mr. Bisballe agreed with Mr. Smith and that we need to do what is necessary and commented it would let more light into the area. Mr. Michaux agreed stating the area will look better and the grass quality will improve. It was noted the two Lake Shore Rd. tree removals were expedited due to the GPYC event and resident requests.

GPSIF UPDATE

Mr. Marshall reported the Foundation will give an updated splash pad presentation at the July 16, 2013 council meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Bisballe questioned if the trees at the park had been removed and if the City had received any complaints. Mr. Marshall stated the trees were removed and all safety/hazard concerns have been taken care of and no complaints were received.

Mr. Smith reported he met with the resident at 80 N. Duval Rd. regarding a rear yard tree near a power line. It was determined it was the resident's tree and he will take care of trimming and or removal.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Smith reported contractor Rich Russell working at the Dabbous residence on Stratton has damaged the island in front of the house and the homeowner will be repairing and re-planting a tree when construction is complete. The maintenance of the tree, until it gets established will be of concern. It was noted that some islands in the past have been maintained by residential watering and was noted that Mr. Dabbous has offered to maintain the island. Mrs. Bai questioned what would happen upon sale of the home. Mr. Bisballe suggested talking to Mr. Wollenweber. He may want to clarify with the City Attorney.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

It was noted that the next Board meeting will be held at 7:30 a.m., October 8, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 a.m.

Lynn Michaux, Secretary