

TIPP CITY TREE BOARD

TIPP CITY, MIAMI COUNTY, OHIO June 11, 2014

Tree Board Meeting

The Tipp City Tree Board meeting was called to order at 5:16 p.m. by Chairman DeRoss.

Roll Call

Members in attendance included: Tom DeRoss and Joanna Pittenger. Also in attendance were John Kessler, ODNR Urban Forester Wendi Van Buren, Mike Lippert of Wyoming, OH, Park/Street Superintendent Jim Asher, and Board Secretary Marilyn Fennell. Mr. DeRoss said they would wait a while to see if Mr. Blake arrives.

Approval of Minutes

April 9, 2014

Mrs. Pittenger **moved the minutes of April 9, 2014 be approved as presented.** Mr. DeRoss seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0.

Items not on the Agenda

Mrs. Pittenger said the Historical Society passed on a thank you for the replacement tree planted at their rental property on N. Third Street. Mr. DeRoss commented it was rather surprising and depressing to see all the dead trees as one drives along in town.

New Business

Tree

Plantings/Removals

21 W. Broadway-

Remove Locust

The Board agreed the sidewalk is compromised. The tree roots can be checked per Mr. Asher. The tree can be removed.

334 S. Second St.-

Remove Maple

There was discussion on two trees at that location, both on property lines. Sidewalk is compromised. Mr. Kessler thought the one to the south is pretty hollow and appears to be home to some raccoons. Mr. Kessler also commented on 309 S. Second. It was found that tree was on the list for Mr. Montgomery.

214 E. Walnut-

Remove Ash

The Board agreed that the dead Ash tree needs to be removed.

240 N. Tippecanoe

Dr.- Remove dead

tree

The Board agreed this tree is dead and the variety is unknown due to its condition. The above trees will be placed on the removal list.

Old Business

Ash Removal Update

Mr. Asher said 4 trees have been removed from S. Hyatt St. (Davis property) and that there are 7 in City Park and 7 in Hathaway Park that need immediate attention. Ms. Van Buren asked if this is a jump in the condition. Mr. Asher said there was a big change in the ash trees in our area over the last two years.

Tree City USA- April
11, 2014

Ms. Van Buren stated Mr. Lippert is the staff person for Wyoming, Oh. that will be working on Tree City USA 2015. They talked with Mrs. Fennell before the meeting and were interested in

any comments from the members regarding this year's event. Mr. Asher said this was his third event and it has grown from a very small group to the size of this year's. Our downtown project certainly enhanced the event. Ms. Van Buren said she heard comments that smaller communities didn't know they could have such a nice downtown area. Mrs. Fennell said the weather was perfect and the Easter holiday won't interfere with next year's event. Mrs. Pittenger thought the venue was roomy enough and the caterer was very accommodating and the length of the day was just right. The time frame was arrival at 10:30 with program to start at 11, lunch at 12, with awards to start at 1pm and it all seemed to flow just fine. Ms. Van Buren asked if the price worked. The \$19 fit the budget, there were a number of comped guests but we had a very reasonable caterer. Mrs. Fennell said one just needs to keep track of the monies coming in and make sure all communities pay. Mr. DeRoss said there were several meetings before hand and there was a good partnership with the America In Bloom committee which provided manpower. The caterer was very good. The City had also engaged the Tree Board in the selection and placement of trees on the Street project and that enhanced everything. The Board asked Ms. Van Buren for her comments. She said it went "smooth" and the event looked and felt like Tipp City. We also impressed her new boss. Ms. Van Buren was also helpful to Mrs. Fennell with any questions she had.

Mrs. Pittenger asked if the other Tree City USA events are like ours. Ms. Van Buren replied that they are all different. At one, everyone gives a 5-minute PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Asher said that was the rule a number of years ago but some attendees got really long-winded. Ms. Van Buren said Mason implemented the booklet about 7 years ago. Mrs. Fennell said a lot of books were left but she still felt it was a tool for other communities to use for other project ideas, especially for Growth Awards. Ms. Van Buren suggested requesting one project idea from each community rather than a summary. Ms. Van Buren thanked the Board again for their time and energy on the event.

Arbor Day, April 25,
2014

Mrs. Fennell had included a summary of what was done that week, thanked those that attended the tree planting (5- in Rosewood Creek Park), and the proclamation was the new version that was used. Mr. DeRoss asked what the 1st Graders thought of the spruce trees. Mrs. Fennell said that was a bit different as we were invited to attend at the end of the school day. The classes were a bit late arriving to the room so there was not a lot of time to have the usual discussion and presentation. The students did send a nice "tree" thank you that is hanging in the lobby.

Tree Brochure

Mr. DeRoss had been in Tampa, Florida recently and came across a Tree Board booth at an event and shared that with all.

The Board reviewed the revised brochure (tree list and staff names eliminated and Memorial Tree information updated). The changes met the Board's approval and the information will be passed onto staff to have brochures printed up. They can be distributed through Community Services, mailings, city website and counter display.

The Board discussed dates to meet and look at the roadway per Mr. Asher. Mr. Vagedes had previously requested a list be submitted by the first of October. Mr. DeRoss said there is a 17' wide curb lawn to work with for larger variety trees. It was decided to meet either June 23 or 24 at 4:00pm. The large conference room can be used to view Google maps of the area. Mr. Blake will be advised and the final meeting date will be e'd to all.

Miscellaneous
New Tree Care

The Board received a copy of the letter and instructions sent to residents on S. Third Street and W. Dow Street that received trees during the reconstruction projects in 2013.

2014 SW Ohio
Summer Conclave

Ms. Van Buren invited all to attend the Summer Conclave in Montgomery. It will be Landscape Architecture Plans 101. It is free to TCA participants, guests \$5 each.

Mr. Kessler raised a question about some ash trees that are dead. Mr. Asher said they are all on the removal list. Mr. Kessler asked Ms. Van Buren if there is any funding available to assist communities with this problem. She replied that the state of Ohio was declared fully infested and once that happened the funding was cut off. Mr. Asher said there needs to be an increase in the budget for replantings. One difficult thing is the City just lost a tree trimmer to an electric lineman position. Mr. Montgomery is trying to work with some of the summer help to remove some of the dangerous trees. Ms. Van Buren said she has seen group "buys" for removals for smaller communities and homeowners' associations. Prices are usually lower for the groups. Mr. Lippert spoke on how they treated ash trees but they have seen a decline also. It appears that there is about a 10% loss each year despite treatment.

Mr. Kessler again raised a point about some dangerous, dead trees on S. Second Street.

Mr. Asher reported he has applied to the Milner Fund for some park trees, Blackhill Spruce and Princeton Elms, and that should free up some monies for curb lawn trees that need replaced. Miles Avenue will need some trees replaced.

Ms. Van Buren said her fall conference will be in Mason on

**Excuse absent
Board member**

**Next Meeting
Date &
Adjournment**

October 22. Covering storm preparedness, FEMA requirements and activities that other communities are doing. There are also two new TCA classes. Mr. Blake is already signed up and she invited staff to join him.

Mr. DeRoss **moved to excuse Mr. Blake from the meeting.** Mrs. Pittenger seconded the motion. Motion passes 2-0.

The next meeting is August 13, 2014. There being no further business, Mr. DeRoss **moved to adjourn the meeting.** Mrs. Pittenger seconded the motion. Mr. DeRoss declared the meeting adjourned at 6:08 pm.

APPROVED _____
Tom DeRoss, Board Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Marilyn Fennell, Board Secretary