

## Tree Advisory and Education Board

### Minutes of February 8, 2023 Meeting

Attendees: Rita Stevens, David Sangree, Matt Krems, Linda Grandstaff, Sam Bonvisutto, Patrick Costello, Sarah Kepple

The meeting began at 6 pm. The minutes of the December 14, 2022 were approved as submitted following a motion by David and second by Matt.

Linda reviewed several followup activities for the board to pursue following the January 9, 2023 presentation and discussion with the Public Works and Sustainability Committee of City Council. These include application for Tree City USA Growth Award based on 2022 accomplishments with Sam and Patrick to review the application, a private tree planting promotion including a possible pilot program in partnership with Keep Lakewood Beautiful and Lakewood Garden Club, developing a resource guide for resident tree maintenance leveraging resources such as Holden Arboretum and Western Reserve Conservancy, researching the results of an early root block trial in Lakewood under Chris Perry, exploration of acquiring and tree planting on ODOT property along I-90.

Sam provided an update on spring tree planting of 200 trees in 16 equity zones as required by the Cuyahoga County grant, stump grinding of 124 stumps on tree lawns to open up additional locations, plans for larger tree planting under an ODNR grant in the fall. There is continued discussion of an Urban Forester position, with interest in the the team.

The board discuss Arbor Day (4/28/2023) plans with a tentative plan for an event at Lakewood Park.

Rita offered to explore grant opportunities for the board and to check in with Ed Denk on his interest in continuing the 3rd graders' tree gift program. Linda will check in with Jin O'Brian of the Lakewood Observer on a second Most Distinguished Tree Contest and the Lakewood Public Library on a tree related story walk for children. Matt will provide links to tree wholesalers for consideration for the private tree give away.

The meeting adjourned at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Linda Grandstaff, Chair/Secretary