

Tree Advisory and Education Board Minutes 3-12-2025

Attendees: Sam Bonvissuto, Linda Grandstaff, Alex Martin, Rita Stevens, Patrick Costello, Allison Welch, Matt Bixenstine, Mary Kennedy

The meeting began at 6:03 pm via Zoom.

Following a motion by Rita, and a second by Matt, the minutes were unanimously approved with a minor correction to the spring tree giveaway time to 10 am - 1 pm, not 9 a- noon.

The board discussed the spring tree giveaway. Neograph has offered its corporate sponsorship and volunteers for the event. Linda will contact Amy of Neograph. Communications includes a notice on the water bill in March, Lakewood Observer articles, and notices on the Lakewood website and social media. There are about 25 names on the waiting list and the board discussed giving them the first hour of web access, before the public access at 10 am on 4/3. The board discussed conducting a survey of 2024 participants in May 2025, including confirmation of tree species received, survival and condition, where planted and any concerns.

The board discussed various outreach efforts, such as Story Walk books on trees, GardenWalk event outreach, the Most Distinguished Tree contest and other later events. The board will continue to explore a community arboretum concept, with an initial focus on Lakewood Park.

The Forestry Department provided on the spring planting of 200 trees, trimming, elevating and related activities. Tree species to be included will be determined by 4/15.

Linda will reach out to Maureen Bach, Clerk of Council to set up a date for the TAEB annual report to the Public Works Committee. (The date has been set for 4/21, for a 60 minute report at 6:30pm). Linda will put a draft presentation together for the Board to review and edit.

The meeting ended at 6:45pm.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Grandstaff, Chair/Secretary