

## Tree Advisory and Education Board Minutes for 5/8/2024

Attendees: Linda Grandstaff, David Sangree, Rita Stevens, Bob Gorentz, Matt Bixenstine, Mary Kennedy

The meeting began at 6:05 pm via Zoom. The minutes for the April meeting were approved following a motion by David, seconded by Rita. The board debriefed on the successful pilot of the Community Canopy tree giveaway. We will explore with Arbor Day the possibility of creating a wait list. There were about a dozen unclaimed trees, not including 4 residents who requested alternative pickup times.

Participants received an email and two texts if they provided a cell phone. While this year's spring and fall pilots are funded by the city, we will explore Healthy Lakewood Neighborhood grants (maximum \$10,000) keeping the mayor's chief John Story in the loop. We will determine the native tree species for the fall pilot by July and look for opportunities throughout the summer and fall to promote the Gift a Tree program which could be an additional funding source.

The board discussed the third year of the Most Distinguished Tree Contest. The categories discussed were Most Distinguished, best Conifer, Most Unusual and perhaps Best Native Tree. Linda will call Jim O'Brian of the Lakewood Observer to confirm their continued sponsorship and timing. The board planned a summer potluck in June.

The Forestry Department reported that spring planting is nearly complete and water truck begins on Monday, May 13. Stump grinding is out to bid and hazardous tree removal includes 8-9 trees. A discussion of a large Tree of Heaven on Detroit which was nominated the first year of the Most Distinguished Tree Contest elected the information that based on its girth, it is the third largest Tree of Heaven in Ohio. Too bad it hosts spotted lantern flies.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Grandstaff, chair/secretary