

TAEB Minutes May 10, 2023

Attendees: Linda Grandstaff, Mary Brown, Rita Stevens, David Sangree, Sam Bonvissuto, Alex Martin, Patrick Costello

The meeting began at 6:05 pm. Following a motion by Rita, and second by Mary, the minutes were approved as submitted

There was a discussion of the 2023 Most Distinguished Tree Contest. Linda spoke to Jim O'Brien and he indicated that the Lakewood Observer is willing to jointly run the contest in June and July. Linda will ask if there is an easier way to load the nominated trees. The board discussed providing plaques to the top 3 tree owners and certificates to all nominees. During the discussion of prizes for nominators, it was concluded that prizes were not that important to the contest.

There was a brief discussion of funding sources and contacting the grant writer. There was a discussion of a fall tree give away, to promote private property planting. Mary referenced TreePlenish which supplied tree saplings as well as the Conservation District and encouraged a collaboration with schools.

There was a discussion of the Tree City USA Growth Award process. The Forestry Update covers the spring tree planted that started on May 10 and planned to plant 20-25 trees per day for a total of 200 trees in equity zones. The stump grinding contract is being awarded and will start in June. The removal of 8 hazardous trees will also start in June. There is another ODNR grant under consideration to obtain additional tools for the department for resistograph seismitography. The board will provide a letter of support. A new county grant is being submitted for additional tree planting. An ODNR grant for large canopy trees will be the focus of tree fall planting. There was a discussion of the Lakewood Park Playground trees. Two swamp white oaks were removed and have been replaced and three additional trees are slated to be removed and replaced.

Rita volunteered to write an article about the Arbor Day events, including photos. Linda will call Jim O'Brien to refresh the article announcing the tree contest.

The meeting was concluded at 7:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Linda Grandstaff, Chair/Secretary