

Tree Advisory and Education Board Minutes June 12, 2024

Attendees: Linda Grandstaff, Bob Gorentz, Alex Martin, Matt Bixenstine, David Sangree, Mary Kennedy

The meeting began at 6 pm. After a motion by David, seconded by Matt, the minutes of the May meeting were approved as submitted.

The board discussed the upcoming tree contest in collaboration with the Lakewood Observer. The four categories will be Most magnificent, most beautiful conifer, oddest, most unusual tree and most beautiful native tree. The announcement will include information on both native trees and some of the worst invasive trees (tree of heaven, callery pear, royal paulownia) as a part of our education mission. Linda will draft the announcement article.

The board discussed the fall community canopy tree giveaway. It was suggested that we offer 5 species, 2 large canopy and 3 understory or smaller trees. Flowering dogwood and American Hophornbeam were suggested. The Bernice Pyke Park was decided as the most convenient location for pick up. October 19 was discussed for the pick up date. TAEB participation in the September 7 Community Festival at Madison Park was discussed in order to encourage greater participation in the east side neighborhoods.

There was a discussion of a recent resident complaint about continued volcano mulching of tree lawn trees and if there is any city restriction on the board sending a letter to offending residents about the risk of damage to the tree.

The board discussed the Bunts Road project and will followup on the comment submitted to encourage adoption of the option with the least amount of tree removal.

The Forestry Dept. reported that spring planting is complete and watering has started and requires a 6 day cycle and will continue throughout the summer. Stump and hazardous tree lists are being developed. If additional dead trees are seen, they can be reported through the Report a Problem /See something, say something capability on the city webpage which generates 50% of the department work orders or the addresss can be sent to Sam. It was suggested that the dropdown menu include dead or dying / hazarddous trees. There was a discussion of the Orchard Park tree planting was also discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Linda Grandstaff, Chair/Secretary