

Tree Advisory and Education Board
Minutes 7/10/2024

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

The meeting began at 6:05 pm via Zoom. Following a motion by David and seconded by Matt, the minutes were approved as submitted.

The Tree Contest is underway in partnership with the Lakewood Observer. Final date for nomination is August 16, 2024. Voting will begin on August 21st.

The second pilot Community Canopy tree giveaway is being planned. Desired species, subject to availability include two large canopy or shade trees Red Oak and Tulip Poplar, and three under canopy trees, Flowering Dogwood, Redbud, Hophornbeam and Prairie Fire Flowering Crabapple. The board would like to use Bernice Pyke Park for distribution from 10-noon on October 19. Communications are being planned and board participation in the September Community Festival at Madison Park is planned to encourage more tree planting in the eastern neighborhoods of the city. Funding for 2025 giveaways through a Healthy Lakewood Grant will be made by the deadline of August 19. Additional funding through ODNR and OHEPA will be sought. The board will keep in touch with the mayor's chief of staff John Story.

The Forestry Department provided an update to the board. A contract for stump grinding is being developed. Tree elevating is underway as is tree watering. A board member drew notice to social media posts about tree removals (about 20) on Glenbury due to water line replacement. Concerns with Norway pines on a neighborhood alley and prevalence of spotted lantern flies and the removal of trees of heaven were also raised.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Linda Grandstaff, chair/secretary