

CIRCLEVILLE TREE COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes – November 14, 2024

Chairman Beth Kowalski called the meeting to order at 6:00. Present were Lori Pritchard, Alan Gribler, Mark Fouch, and Sheri Theis, Council Liaison. Volunteers Paul Hang and Doug Baker were also present.

Gribler made a motion to approve of the Tree Commission minutes from October 10, 2024. Fouch seconded. Motion carried.

IRA UCF Grant – Fall planting update – There are 96 approved residential sites on the list. Two additional trees will be planted by request at 575 East Franklin Street in the front yard and two trees will be planted along the City Garage property on Ohio Street. Approximately 20 homeowners declined trees in response to the letters.

The drive-around at the city school campus was quick. The proposed planting areas along Brookhill Lane and Clark Drive are both in the right-of-way, so there is no objection. The trees along the trail need to allow room for safety vehicles to drive down the path.

A company from Dayton was the low bidder to plant the trees. The work is scheduled to be done in the first half of December. 150 stakes to mark the planting locations need to be purchased, painted white if needed, and the signs for the residential areas need to be laminated. Kowalski will order the stakes through Sutherlands. Theis will paint and prepare the signs.

Plans were made to meet at Ted Lewis Park at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, November 29 to put out the stakes to mark the locations for planting.

The Arborist position was re-posted and applications are due November 22. The Service Director hopes to have an Arborist hired by December.

Freshmen Tree Commission Academy - Kowalski made a motion to approve paying for Chris Burton to attend the Academy in Washington CH next January. Pritchard seconded. Motion carried.

Publicity/Communications – Laura Schweitzer, publicity chair, was unable to attend the meeting.

Service Department appreciation – Kowalski will work with Chris Cupp to coordinate the pizza lunch to show our appreciation for their work with the trees. Gribler made a motion to buy Tree City hats for the 15 Service Department personnel. Kowalski seconded. Motion carried.

Tree City USA – 2024 application is due December 2. Theis is working with the Service Department to complete the application and will get it turned in to Alistair Reynolds. Two additional street signs were provided to Alistair. Locations for the signs will be provided to Chris Cupp once the upcoming planting and leaf collection are completed.

Ted Lewis Planting – The green screen along Brokaw Ave. was completed on November 8. 10 arborvitae were planted by the Service Dept. according to Paul Hang's plan.

The Tree Commission does not meet in December or January. Next meeting is February 13, 2025. Pritchard made a motion to adjourn. Kowalski seconded. Motion carried.