

South Euclid Tree Commission
Wednesday, November 6, 2019

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm

Attendance: Joe Mehalik, Chair; Miriam Plax; Debbie Wright; Dean Grida; Lenny Chormanski; Jane Goodman; Kessa Turnbull; Dominic Liberatore; Tammy Lease.

Guest: Zaija Pelligree, Western Reserve Land Conservancy Urban Programs coordinator-reforest program.

No public input

Joe introduced Zaija Pelligree who is considering joining the Commission.

Grant Update: Awaiting the law director's approval and signoff on the \$34K grant. Then the grant goes to Cuyahoga County for signature and execution. Jason Knolls of Knolls Municipal Forestry will begin work with Tree Tracker over the winter. The work is scheduled to be done by January 2020 and will include an Urban Site Index that includes tree condition. The Management plan will follow the Inventory and includes: priority removals; hardscape; 5 years replacement plan; wire placement; condition rating/failure. We should continue to update the community through Facebook. A meeting will be scheduled with Jason (in early December) as soon as the contract is signed by all parties.

Sidewalk Workshop: Dean and Lenny attended to recent sidewalk workshop and talked about the various solutions presented. Several solutions presented (Upper Arlington-Columbus, OH) were very costly and available for review by looking at their website. The NY City has a cost-share program with owner-occupied properties where street trees are prioritized. Rental properties and commercial properties are at the owner's expense. All require ADA compliance.

It was discussed that South Euclid might consider using Tree Fund dollars to offer financial assistance to curve sidewalks. This would be one-time grants. The City code would need to be changed and criteria (income, location) determined.

Meeting Schedule for 2020

January 15 (include One South Euclid to continue sidewalk discussion)

March 18

April 24 Arbor Day

May 20

July 15

September 16

November 18

For consideration: November 11 Veteran's Day planting if trees are available

TuBishvat February 10-11 if Terazin trees are available

Follow up from past resident appeals:

M/M Adrine were asked to contact One South Euclid to apply for funds to help pay for their sidewalk repair. Lenny will follow up.

M/M Glazer are to receive a letter indicating they must remove the trees from their tree lawn. The commission will offer to plant appropriate trees in their place. The letter is to be reviewed by the law director before sending.

Commission renewals/eligibility: the following individuals are up and in parenthesis is who appointed them

Joe (council)

Dominic (mayor)

Debbie (council)

Kessa (mayor)

Miriam (council)

The next meeting (in December) will be with Jason Knolls

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm