

Tree Commission Meeting Minutes
December 4, 2023
7:30-9:00 PM

Attendees: Jackie Sabath, Lester Scheurmann, Gabe Popkin, Judy Alba, Andy Doyle, Ning Xu

Meeting Facilitator: Jackie Sabath

Notes: MaryLee

Notes:

1. Introductions
 - a. Announcement about meeting at the Nature Center, December 14, 10AM with Ning Xu, wants to invite head naturalist Serenella, to discuss invasive vine removal
2. Approval of minutes from previous meeting - Approved, no changes
3. Update on Casey Tree Planting
 - a. Jonathan from Casey Trees has completed consultations. Expects around 25 yard trees. Deadline for the last consultations is mid-January.
 - b. Confirmed ~19 street trees
 - c. Remaining Trees, suggest along Bunker Hill across from Joe's in front of Church (5); and 5 trees on Bunker Hill between 35th and 36th along Apartment property. Will need to be under wire trees
 - d. Jackie went door to door for a few residents who wanted to discuss a tree in person.
 - e. Next steps, Jonathan wants to visit the street tree locations. Can fit a few more trees but right now have 55
4. Winter Tree Pruning
 - a. Gabe is leading public tree pruning this year.
 - b. Lester will create a new pruning google map for everyone to view and update.
 - c. Gabe, suggest getting together to go over pruning principles - January 13, at 9:30 AM at 28th St and Taylor St. for a pruning refresher
 - d. Judy question about what we are doing with CM - diseased branches with bark scale need to be bagged or burned.
 - e. Everyone be sure to clean equipment with alcohol between uses
 - f. Discussion about pruning tools and acquiring some new equipment through the city. Most tree commissioners have some of their own tools but is it fair for us to

WRITTEN UPDATES

- County tree replacement - Many emails with Reno Brown from PG County. Tree replacements planned for April 2024.
- The Tree Box Walk was successful in covering all city trees. Specifically, two goals were met: a) Enhancing the accuracy of AUTI data & b) identifying needs that require further attention, e.g. pruning and professional assessment by Matt. Thanks to the Commissioners for their participation.
- There are 12 blocks in the city without sidewalks. Because of the uncertainty of how far from the curb the city's property extends, we have likely not included trees for which the city may be responsible, and there may also be more planting sites when this is known. Luke sent a request to the City Manager for several of us to view the City's plats of these blocks. Hopefully, we can complete this before the next TC meeting.