

Tree and Landscape Commission Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: Ralph called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Present: Ralph Waszak, Jason Whittle, Steve Hoffman, Diane Nagy, Sheila Schreiner in at 6:09 pm

Others Present: Scott Waldemarson-Service Director, Walt Dorsey-Grounds Supervisor, Laura Toth- Mayors Executive Assistant, (Mayor Wheeler out of town)

Since there were a couple of new people at the meeting, Ralph suggested that everyone in the room introduce themselves.

Ralph Waszak swore in Diane Nagy as a Village of Richfield Tree and Landscape Commission Member. Diane's term is a 3-year term, 2023 thru 2025.

Election of Officers: We are required to have an election of officers every year, the chair and the Vice Chair of the Secretary and I will accept the nomination score chair.

CHAIR- Sheila made a motion nominating Ralph Waszak to continue as chair, Diane Nagy seconded the motion. Voted on motion at hand, Motion passed with "all ayes" and no opposition.

VICE CHAIR- Steve nominated Sheila for Vice and motion was on the floor, ____ Seconded motion. Voted on motion at hand, Motion passed with "all Ayes" and no opposition.

SECRETARY- Diane Nagy volunteered, no other nominations. Voted on motion at hand, Motion passed with "all Ayes" with no opposition.

Officers for 2023:

CHAIR-Ralph Waszak

VICE CHAIR- Sheila Schreiner

SECRETARY- Diane Nagy

Ordinance Establishing T&L Commission- There is an ordinance which established the tree and Landscape Commission, Ralph will forward to all members. The ordinance spells out what our duties are essentially, created approximately 1992.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Review of 2022: Tree City, Winar Connection donation of 40 trees and others. Tree City was a huge event last year, it was held right here on the grounds and we had roughly 200 people from all over the state and it was successful. The Tree City event is an annual event where their awards are passed out to the various members, a different host conducts the event each year. It was a full day starting with registration and breakfast, various speakers, vendors and award ceremony. Everyone received a Redbud tree, kneeling pad and flower seeds. Speakers included, OD&R, Robert Najjar, Ellen Daniels, Robert Morgan, West Creek Conservancy and Cuyahoga Valley National Park.
- Winar Connection's 40th year and to recognize Tree City, Winar donated 40 trees to Richfield, some of which were planted on their street and the rest were distributed throughout Richfield. Winar employees came out and helped plant the tree, we dug the holes, then kept watered throughout the season. All are still alive, the Japanese Beetles attacked the Lindens. It was a very nice generative donation.
- Adopt a Spot Program: A program started by former Councilman Gary Domanic. The program located public spots throughout town, the spots are then planted with flowers. The locations are planted by stewards and plants are purchased by sponsors. With a \$250 sponsor donation, the sponsor's garden receives a plaque that stays up all year and stewards donate their time to plant the flower and take

care of the location all season, stewards also get a sign with their name on it. The Village assigns the locations. Last year we were short a number of stewards, and this year I think a couple of sponsors will not be taking part in the program. It was suggested to create an ad for the RF Times and add to our website looking for Sponsors and Stewards. Might need to rethink a couple locations, change or add new ones. Some of the busier spots the Service Dept. takes care of due to parking accessibility. The program starts middle of May and we like for the spots to be planted by Memorial Weekend.

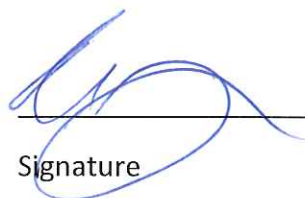
- Justin stated, native perennials require a whole lot less in the way of or biennials require a whole lot less in the way of watering, something to consider.
- It was mentioned to reach out to Scouts or youth groups if it was a safe area.
- Jot down locations if you notice any in the next coming weeks. Need to spruce up the northern part of town, Holiday Inn area, by turnpike and 77, old Marathon area, corner by Hawkins.
- Doesn't have to be companies, can be families- sponsor, plant it and take care of it.
- Maybe use some large planters doesn't have to be planted in a bed. Talked about the self-watering fiberglass pots.
- Encourage perennials
- Talk to Mayor about Walt's budget, monies do not go to Walt then go to the general budget. Walt's budget should be increased by the Adopt A Spot amount. Need to discuss with mayor.
- Discussed the South Grant Street Area-Richfield Brewing Co, and Richfield Library area. Ralph passed out the composite plan for the Town Center and Grant Street Extension Project. The Grant Street extension has changed considerably and you should stop by and take a look, compare to the plans. We were able to protect the large oak tree on the property and construction will be commencing shortly. Owners also own Sarah's winery. The Village is starting a master plan of the green on March 1st.
- Project Pride will take place Saturday, April 22 from 9am to noon. There will be 8 varieties of saplings for the tree giveaway. The Arbor Day tree giveaway is in conjunction with Project Pride, we concentrate on cleanup/ trash pickup of your area. We also supply free paper shredding and electronic recycling as well as dispose of unused drugs. Trees are a first come first serve basis.
- Future Tree Grants


AGENDA REQUESTS:

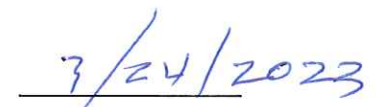
- Invasive Species
- Memorial Tree Program
- Reagan Tree Replacement
- Jason- Wild Back Yards
- Next Meeting Date: March 16, 2023, 6:00 pm Every 3rd Wednesday.

Approval of Minutes: Need approval of April 25 and June 2 meeting minutes also last meeting September 26 no notes or minutes listed. Can't vote on the minutes since there are only 2 members present this year, Ralph is looking for minutes from Sept. 26, 2022.

- **ADJOURNMENT 7:30 pm**


Signature


Name and Title
CHAIR
T+L
COMMISSIONER


Date