

Tree and Landscape Commission Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 16, 2023

Call to Order: Ralph Waszak called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Present: Ralph Waszak, Sheila Schreiner, Diane Nagy, Steven, Hoffman, **Absent,** Jason Whittle
Others Present: Scott Waldemarson-Service Director, Walt Dorsey-Grounds Supervisor, Laura Toth-Mayors Executive Assistant, John Piepsney- Parks and Recreation Director

Approval of Minutes: Sheila Schreiner made the 1st motion for approval, Steve Hoffman seconded the motion. Approved by all board members in attendance.

Ordinance Establishing T&L Commission

There is some overlap of duties between others boards in the community: Parks and Recreation Board, Zoning Board.

This document spells out our responsibilities for our trees.

Being a tree city is in part what has driven the creation of this charter. One of the duties this document does is give the Service Department the power to trim the trees on private property for safety.

This document can be found online.

New Business

Memorial tree and bench program. Mr. Waszak saw this idea in Bath and Brecksville Ohio, and noticed that several other communities also have programs. When he started inquiring about doing something similar in Richfield he discovered that Ellen Daniels of the Park Board was already actively looking into this for our community. This is a project that has some overlap between the 2 boards.

Park Director John Piepsney shared his experience with this type of program. He presented and a mock brochure for us to look at should we consider adopting this program for our community.

The brochure includes:

- List of trees that could be used upon approval from Scott Waldemarson, and Walt Dorsey
- Different bench styles and sizes. The benches can also be engraved with the memorial information. John mentioned that in Brunswick they used Benson Bench Company. Brunswick also provided a link for people to use so the benches could be ordered and paid for online. Then benches were then delivered to the Service Department for them to install.

Park board would have the main say on this program, but the T&L Commission would have a say in choosing the trees.

Scott Waldemarson also spoke of his experience with this program in Cuyahoga Heights. In his experience the Service Department was responsible for the planting of the tree, and installing the memorial plaque.

A brief discussion was held on residents of Lynchburg, Tennessee and their experience with the Jack-Daniels tree fungus from all of the fumes from the distillery. Expansion of the distillery has been blocked until the company solves the issues with the fumes causing the fungus.

Native Species for Wild Backyards

Not discussed

Old Business

Adopt a Spot

There is a 5x4 ad coming out in the paper. The ad will explain the program, for both sponsors and stewards.

Laura is going to reach out to last year's sponsors and stewards.

Sponsors will make their donation to the Village of Richfield for the flowers, and the stewards can go to Constantine's Garden Center to pick out the plants. Constantine's Garden Center will then bill the village for the plants.

Plants need to be in my Memorial Day Weekend so the town is look good for the Memorial Day parade. Stewards are responsible for the planting and watering of the plant all season long.

New locations were talked about:

- Maybe around the sign at the park on the old Babs Orchard property.
- The raised bed by concession stand at Richfield Woods. Downfall is no water is available for this site. John P said he would talk to the baseball organization to see if they would be willing to take it on.
- Talked about maybe some plantings on the north end of town.
- We talked about trying to use more perennials in the spots
- Potential for using self-watering planters in some location also talked about

Project Pride

Saturday, April 22, 2023

- Tree giveaway
 - Begins at 9 a.m.
 - Show up at 8:30 a.m. if you are going to help.
- Shredding, paper and electronics
- Prescription drug disposal
- Community clean up- Revere Schools are no longer requiring students to participate in the event, not sure how much clean-up participation there will be.

Tree City

Cambridge hosting Wednesday, April 26 Let Laura know if you want to attend

Next Meeting: April 20

Meeting Adjourned at 7:13



RALPH A. WAZARK, SR.

CHAIR
5/26/2023