

Village of Richfield Tree and Landscape Commission

Minutes – Meeting of June 15, 2020

Meeting called to order at 6:03pm

Present: Theresa Kovak, Lois Czekaj, Dale Rogers, Polly Wheeler, Dr. Gary Domanick

Others present: Mayor Wheeler, Walt Dorsey, Debbie Bluso-Rogers, Bobbie Beshara

The March 16, 2020 meeting was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic and resulting shut-downs. Minutes from Feb. 24, 2020 meeting were tabled until the next meeting because no one seemed to have their copy of those minutes.

There was a brief discussion of whether election of officers had been held. [Review of Feb. minutes shows that the election had not been held. It was tabled in February until the expected March meeting so that more members could be present.] Positions were carried over from last year.

Dr. Domanick gave a review of the purpose and responsibilities of the Tree and Landscape Commission.

Old Business

- 1) Tree Giveaway – All trees were ordered from the nursery, but the event was cancelled due to Covid-19. Walt arranged with the nursery company that the order should be cancelled with no payment required. Due to lack of space and to growth of the saplings, the trees could not be held over until we could pick them up in the fall, so a tree giveaway could not be done in the fall. It is rescheduled for the tentative date of April 24, 2021. The tree selection will be the same as it was this year.
- 2) Tree City USA event – Debbie reviewed what has been arranged so far for this program.
 - a. Due to the pandemic it was decided not to hold the event this year. It has been rescheduled for June 10, 2021.
 - b. It will probably be shared with a couple of other towns that are celebrating a milestone membership year in 2021. Alan Siewert is working on this. The other towns will share in the cost if they can share in the ceremony.
 - c. All of the rentals have been held until next year.
 - d. Giveaways will include a 3-4' redbud sapling, a kneeling pad, and other items. We will order the same size redbuds as we planned to do this year.
 - e. All of the materials are ready.
 - f. The program is in draft mode.
 - g. \$2300 in donations has been received from vendors. They have been notified of the date change. We are budgeting for 300 people at a cost of about \$19,000.
 - h. Debbie reviewed the parking, location, tents, and vendors for the commission.
- 3) Adopt-a-Spot
 - a. Last year's program was reviewed. We are not doing the Adopt-a-Spot program this year due to the pandemic. However, we can get ready for next year.
 - b. Bill Hamilton of North Coast Sign Works, who did the original signs, can do signs for new sponsors and stewards. Bill has offered to do Steward plaques for the signs at \$20 each so that the stewards are also acknowledged.

New Business

- 1) There was a discussion of the planter pots and plantings at Village Hall and elsewhere.
 - a. Right now the self-watering pots are empty. No additional money is being spent on flower plantings this year due to uncertainty in the Village tax collections because of the economic toll of the pandemic.
 - b. There are hanging baskets sitting outside behind the Brecksville Rd service garage. These were ordered from Constantine's before the shut-down. Walt has been watering them.
 - c. The flowers from the hanging baskets can be planted in the Welcome beds and in the pots at Village Hall.
- 2) Gary mentioned the Center of Town plan being drawn up by Rob Morgan.
 - a. Although this is not a priority right now, he would like to discuss it at the next meeting.
 - b. Lois asked if there were previous plans. Bobbie stated that they are in the Mayor's office, but they would need to be reworked to include the new properties acquired since the plans were drawn.
 - c. Gary wants to ask Rob Morgan to come in to one of our meetings, perhaps later this fall, to discuss and explain his plan. Gary will contact Rob.

The next meetings will be August 10 and October 12, 2020 at 6pm. We will meet at the center of town for one of these meetings, possibly in August.

Adjourned at 7:19pm
Submitted by Polly Wheeler