

**Shade Tree Commission
Minutes**

Thursday, May 13, 1 p.m.
Village Hall Pavilion

Next Meetings: Thursday, July 1, 1 p.m.

Present: Beth Schluep
Bob Henry
Sheri Petrosek
Ben Gregory
Hank Gulich
Marcia Mandala
Debra Sanderson

Guest: Brad McBride

April Meeting Minutes approved.

Old Business

1. Service Department -- Ben
 - a. Watering newly planted trees.
 - b. Sent out list of new trees planted.
 - c. Arboretum – dogwood will need to be replaced.
 - d. Arbor Day: Ben hosted Silver Lake Preschool for a tour of the tree nursery, discussed “trees growing from seeds”, and handed out tree buckeyes planted in a yellow bucket.

2. Tree Canopy & Soil – presented by Sheri on behalf of Paul
 - a. The first of three soil samples per 27 households is complete. The second will be taken mid-summer and the third in late summer to early fall.

 - b. The range for all 27 is from about 10 minutes to 5 hours for a liter of water to drain.
 - c. Alan will be onsite for taking 5 soil samples to be sent away for analysis later this month.
 - d. Mulching observations started in early May and will continue into June.

3. STC Annual Timeline Review
 - a. Ben’s report tabled until next meeting.

4. STC Web Page -- Bob
 - a. Links to articles have been added to web site.
 - b. We can post to Village facebook page after mayoral approval.

- c. Ben's Arbor Day with Preschoolers was posted on Facebook by Village.
5. Memorial Book – Marcia
 - a. In progress.
 6. 2020 Tree Village Inventory Zone 3 -- Sheri
 - a. Tree Tracker: Inventory has been entered into Tree Tracker.
 - b. Nuances of the software have been noted and documented in STC Manual.
 - c. Island trees are a challenge to document, due to confusion over placement/address of those trees. A policy has been established and noted in Manual. Brad offered to help with this issue.
 - d. Ben to contact Sheri for training on Tree Tracker data retrieval and reports.
 7. Education –
 - a. Tree canopy article for newsletter – Marcia. Still don't know if Village newsletter will be sent out.
 - b. Village is agreeable to adding STC info to the water bill. Information would be required to Village by 25th of each month.
 - c. We finalized the "How to Mulch" and "Pay the Shade Forward" ½ page handout with changes suggested from Brad. Will provide to Kim to print on cardstock front/back. Sheri to order cardstock in a color. Brad suggested adding "use finely shredded natural bark mulch" as opposed to dyed coarse mulch or woodchip.
 - d. MulchKateers tabled for now.
 - e. Signage with proper tree care and environmental issues – Beth shared an image of an informational sign we can post to educate residents. Beth to check with Mayor Hovey on viability of sharing this project with Storm Water Committee.
 - f. Pay the Shade Forward article submitted by Marcia to Falls News Press but not yet printed. Silver Lake Neighbor Magazine did publish.
 - e. How to Distribute Tree Canopy Project outcomes to residents:
 - i. Will be presented to Council when we can do it in person.
 - ii. Beth and Marcia to review with Paul the 5 minute presentation
 - f. Electronic Village sign: Beth to document messages being shown.
 - g. Handout for "How to Mulch" and "Pay the Shade Forward" reviewed and approved with minor changes. Sheri to finalize and bring next meeting.
 - h. Arbor Day – STC to support the park board at tree dedication 1 p.m. at 2991 Overlook across from school.
 - i. Meet and Greet at Arboretum on Saturday, June 5, 10-12 a.m. Refreshments, coffee, water, tree trivia quiz, scavenger hunt, walkabout. "Story walk" suggestion – pick a story such as Giving Tree. Make blow up of stories throughout the Arboretum. Have posters with fun facts about Silver Lake trees and history of Arboretum.

New Business

1. Web page additions and links –

- a. Link to Memorial Book list. Marcia to provide e-document to Bob.
 - b. Look into link for Tree Inventory data. Ben to train Sheri on Tree Tracker to determine if this can be done. Brad to help.
 - c. Relevant podcasts/books: can't link to podcast on blogpost. Can recommend on website/facebook.
2. Geocaching: Deb to research viability for STC to develop.
 3. Spring Projects: consider projects residents can get involved in. Contact other municipalities on what they do.
 4. Brad McBride to be put forth to be approved as STC member.