

Minutes of the Grosse Pointe Woods Tree Commission Meeting December 6, 2023.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman P. Lechner at 7:30 p.m.

The following members were present:

Dave Andrews
Maria Galbo
Laura Gaskin
Gary Lechner
Paul Lechner
Tim Madigan
Mary Ellen Meyering
Randy Rennpage

The following members were excused:

The following members were absent:
Tim Butler

The following were also in attendance:
Michael Koester, Council Representative

Motion by Rennpage, seconded by Madigan to approve the agenda for the meeting December 6, 2023 passed by the following vote:

Yes: 8 No: 0 Absent: 0

Motion by Galbo, seconded by Madigan to approve the minutes for the meeting November 1, 2023 with the correction that the motion to request a budget increase for the year 2024 was seconded by G. Lechner, not P. Lechner as originally submitted, passed by the following vote:

Yes: 8 No: 0 Absent: 0

Treasurer's Report:

Randy Rennpage reported that our balance is -\$56.06. The Memorial Tree fund balance is almost \$25,000. Rennpage has been advised by the GPW Finance Department that the balance of almost \$25,000 is a reserve for the replacement of Memorial Trees as needed.

Motion by Madigan, seconded by Andrews to accept the report passed by the following vote:

Yes: 8 No: 0 Absent: 0

Old Business:

The Fall planting program has been delayed until March. The Swamp oaks in the Ghesquire park “nursery” will be placed throughout Ghesquire park.

Catherine Colborn is interested in a position on the Commission. We look forward to meeting with her. P Lechner will forward two biographical sketches to the membership and invite the candidates to the February meeting.

Margaret Potter, who visited our meeting recently, had her tree removed as requested.

There is no news yet on The Urban and Community Forestry Program grant request.

New Business:

After some discussion, a motion was made by Madigan to use the same theme for the Arbor Day Poster Contest. It was seconded by Andrews and passed by the following vote:

Yes: 8 No: 0 Absent: 0

Rennpage moved that we establish a sub-committee to evaluate theme ideas for future years. It was seconded by Galbo and passed by the following vote:

Yes: 8 No: 0 Absent: 0

Andrews will invite DPW representatives to our next meeting to discuss increasing the fee for Memorial trees as well as other issues that involve the department.

The Tree City USA application for 2024 has been submitted.

Motion by Gaskin, seconded by Galbo to suspend the January meeting passed by the following vote:

Yes: 8 No: 0 Absent: 0

Our next meeting will be held February 7, 2024.

Council Representative Michael Koester provided an update of current city business.

Motion to adjourn at 8:49 p.m. moved by Madigan, and seconded by Andrews, was unanimous.

Submitted by: Mary Ellen Meyering Office Held: Secretary Cell: 313 505 2352