

Minutes of the Grosse Pointe Woods Tree Commission Meeting November 1, 2023.

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

The following members were present:

Dave Andrews
Tim Butler
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:

The following were also in attendance:

Motion by Andrews, seconded by Rennpage to approve the agenda for the meeting November 1, 2023 passed by the following vote:

Yes: 9 No: 0 Absent: 0

Motion by Madigan, seconded by Butler to approve the minutes for the meeting October 4, 2023 passed by the following vote:

Yes: 9 No: 0 Absent: 0

Treasurer's Report:

Randy Rennpage reported that our balance is \$4069.18 .The Memorial Tree fund balance is almost \$25,000. Rennpage continues to try to find someone who can explain what that balance is available for.

Old Business:

The 2024 budget was discussed. Madigan moved that we increase the requested budget to \$2000 in order to cover the increased expenses due to the improvements made to the Arbor Day program. The motion was seconded by G. P. Lechner. **Correction approved by commission 12/6/23.**

Yes: 9 No: 0 Absent: 0

The Fall planting program has been delayed while the City waits for one more bid. Andrews reported that Little League representatives attended the Recreation Commission meeting last month and requested the removal 40 trees from Ghesquire Park. This is in addition to the 66 trees that need to be removed from the groves at City Hall. We will invite DPW representatives to our next meeting to discuss these pressing issues.

We will be ordering 300 White Spruce trees for the Arbor Day School program. P. Lechner will invoice the City when he receives the bill. Gaskin moved that we order the tree plugs as discussed. Galbo seconded the motion.

Yes: 9 No: 0 Absent: 0

The Urban and Community Forestry Program grant request was written and filed thanks to a great effort from all involved.

Our Commission has two vacancies. We hope to receive biographical sketches from two candidates soon to fill those.

Andrews moved that we request that City Council pay for three Memorial Trees to honor our recently deceased members. Gaskin seconded.

Yes: 9 No: 0 Absent: 0

New Business:

Responsibilities for the 2024 year are as follows:

- Madigan will handle the Arbor Day plaques.
- Meyering and Galbo will spearhead the tree bagging.
- Butler will handle the Memorial Tree Ceremony: organizing the program and certificates, and reaching out to donors.
- Andrews will coordinate the school visits.
- G Lechner will oversee the Poster Contest

All should think about the Poster Contest theme for 2024 . We will discuss how to use potential grant at the December meeting.

Madigan agreed to plan a social event following the December meeting to build fellowship. Information will follow.

Council Representative Michael Koester was ill and unable to provide an update of current city business.

Motion to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. moved by Madigan, and seconded by Butler, was unanimous.

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