

Minutes of the Grosse Pointe Woods Tree Commission Meeting March 6, 2024.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman P. Lechner at 7:31 p.m.

The following members were present:

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

The following members were excused:

Tim Butler
Gary Lechner
Randy Rennpage

The following members were absent:

The following were also in attendance:

DPW representatives: James Kowalski, Matt Crook and Basil Zavinski
Kate Colborn, Steven Skorupski, Michael Koester, Council Representative

Motion by Madigan, seconded by Gaskin to approve the agenda for the meeting March 6, 2024 passed by the following vote:

Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 3

Motion by Madigan, seconded by Galbo to approve the minutes for the meeting February 7, 2024, passed by the following vote:

Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 3

Treasurer's Report:

Randy Rennpage reported by email prior to the meeting that our balance is -\$56.06. There was no change in the balance since our last meeting.

Old Business:

DPW representatives were invited to attend this meeting. They confirmed that the 2023 fall planting will take place the last week in March and the 2024 fall planting will take in the fall as usual.

The three trees in memory of our recently deceased members will be planted this year. The DPW proposed planting them at the City entrance on Vernier Road. They requested that we provide the wording we would like on the markers.

The City Hall tree replacement is a big job, involving stump removal, clean up and cleaning and repair of markers. There are 52 markers there that will require new locations. The DPW proposes Sweeney Park and the new walking path in Ghesquire Park for some of them.

Regarding the Mack avenue trees, the DPW pointed out that business owners are concerned about trees blocking sight lines to their locations. The Commission will form a subcommittee to make a specific plan for those boulevards. Andrews and Lawrence Sobson had previously begun a study of the area, and DPW will provide overhead maps to aid in this process. We would prefer use of native trees, if possible. Once a rough plan is completed, a landscape architect will probably be utilized.

Koester pointed out that, from a Council perspective, it would be best for us to present them a plan and prioritize the greatest needs.

New Business:

Arrangements were discussed for our upcoming Memorial Tree Ceremony and Arbor Day activities.

For the Ceremony, Gaskin will acquire the prayer formerly read by Mr. Groschner. P Lechner will confirm that families have been contacted by Butler. P Lechner will check with City Hall on the certificates and Galbo will handle refreshments.

For Arbor Day the Commissioners will contact the schools regarding their presentations. P Lechner will get the poster blanks ordered at the printer and Gaskin will pick them up and distribute them. Galbo and Meyering will prep the tree bagging meeting at 4:00 on Thursday April 18 and all Commissioners who are able will arrive for the project at 4:30.

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

Motion to adjourn at 9:19 p.m. moved by Madigan, and seconded by Andrews, was unanimous.

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