

Minutes
City of Geneva Shade Tree Committee
Thursday November 16, 2023 Noon
Finger Lakes Welcome Center Conference Room

Present: Jeremy Busch, Jay Freer, Charlie Rouse, Ken Camera, Kevin Reed – (newly onboarded City Junior Engineer), Joe Venuti

Absent: James Norwalk, James McCorkle, Jim Engel, Daisy Hoyt

Approval: Minutes for the September 21th meeting approved

Old Business:

- Joe Venuti presided over meeting covering for Jim Norwalk
- Hosting www.genevatrees.com on the city website – Petr P City IT Manager need to verify how/when city will begin hosting. JV will work with Petr to move forward

The site is currently being hosted by database builder George Farnsworth and who has been reimbursed by the city through 2023.

- Membership updates:

Membership applications will be handled by new City Clerk, Michelle Wright
James McCorkle's term ends December 31st, 2023. JV verified 3 vacancies are available to be filled. Clr. Camera will report to public at December meeting.

- Shade Tree information on the city web site

Jeremy Busch agreed to write a report about what information is missing and how it should be improved. JV will work with Peter P City IT Manager to move forward

- Follow up with Arbor Day tree recipients. Jim Norwalk has sent Charlie Rouse the recipient list. Charlie reported that he has still working on the project.
- Topped trees - Jeremy reported that the Seneca Apartment tree on the Exchange Street appear to be leaning and suggested staking. JV commented that w recent water break may have also impacted location. JV will look into it.,

New Business:

- Identifying locations for planting of WWTP trees

JV provided attached lists of locations for Shade Tree and Park Plantings, DPW crews still working on plantings and Jay Freer is waiting on supplies to install truck guards. Mark Perry will supply Jay with guard materials this week.

- Additional large trees and park planting sites for Glenwood Cemetery are being coordinated with Tom Burrall, Jim Engel and Tim Higgins (DPW Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds

- Identifying locations for contracted and DPW Pruning and Removals List for Fall 2023

JV provided attached lists of locations for planned removals and pruning sites, commented that we are still utilizing 2015 assessment lists.

Questions arose about tree located removing on Castle Street near Oak Street. JV discussed the current design phase of a Capital Improvement Project Castle Street from Main to Brook Street. Several of the existing trees appear to have reached maturity and in poor shape. The trees are causing significant damages to curb lines, sidewalks and mow strip areas. Planned utility work and new construction activities may require trees to be removed and suggested that STC review the project plans and offer recommendations for future plantings. JV will provide preliminary designs available for January 2024 meetings.

- JV secured the Geneva Visitor Conference Room as reserved for STC meetings through 2024 for 12:00 Noon on each Third Thursday of the month.
- December 2023 meeting remains canceled, JV will forward these meeting minutes to Jim Norwalk when he returns from travel commitments.

Next Meeting: Thursday January 18th, 2023 NOON at the Geneva Visitor's Center Conference Room.