

Minutes
City of Geneva Shade Tree Committee
Thursday February 15th, 2024 Noon
Finger Lakes Welcome Center Conference Room

Present: Joe Venuti, John Brennan, James Norwalk, Tom Burrall, Jeremy Busch, Jay Freer, Jim Engel, James McCorkle

Absent: Kevin Reed, Daisy Hoyt, Charlie Rouse, Jill Byington

Approval: Minutes for the January 18th meeting approved with minor edits

Old Business:

- City IT manager Petr Premyzlovsky has contacted George Farnsworth about hosting the tree database.
- Membership updates:

Officially, the committee has four vacancies. We are waiting for the board approval subcommittee of city council to forward the applications of Daisy Hoyt, Jill Byington, Tom Burrall and the renewal of James McCorkle, and to recommend them to city council for approval.

- Jim Norwalk is in the process of updating the tree database with 2023 tree removal and tree planting information. Joe Venuti reports that tree stumps of fall removals will be ground out in the Spring of 2024.
- No update on the FLT articles Jim Norwalk is writing. He plans on completing both articles ahead of Arbor Day.
- Jay Freer reports that he has installed the trunk guards and that deer cages are installed by DPW in cemetery trees.
- Shade Tree information on the city web site

Jeremy Busch reports that the website updates are completed. Jim Norwalk would also like the list of "prohibited trees" added.

- Follow up with Arbor Day tree recipients. Jim Norwalk has sent Charlie Rouse the recipient list. Charlie reported that he is still working on the project. No update.
- New NYSEG trees and other problem trees:

99 St. Clair St., tree #7694 Norway Maple, 26" dia. REMOVE

141 North Exchange St., tree #9523 Callery Pear, REMOVE looks like ash species

154 Maxwell Ave, Sugar Maple, LOOKS HEALTHY, perhaps a prune.
REMOVED 2023

43 Oak St. Dead ash, REMOVAL COMPLETE 2023

39 North Main St., tree #2254 Green Ash, KEEP. Still in good condition. Joe Venuti will negotiate with the homeowner to apply EAB injection treatments. THIS TREE WAS REMOVED IN 2023

40 Elmwood, 10 Delancey, have dead hawthorns which were donated by NYSEG and transplanted as bare root saplings. REMOVE

23 Norwood Ave. new 'Winter King' hawthorn has a few leaves emerging as of 8/17/23. PLEASE WATER AND MONITOR.

115 N. Main. 'Snow Goose' cherry is dead. REMOVE

64 West St. Serviceberry has emergent leaves. PLEASE WATER AND MONITOR.

13 Columbia St. PRUNE

246 William St. NO OBSERVABLE ISSUE

New Business:

- The committee welcomed Councilor-at-Large John Brennan who has agreed to serve as the council liaison.
- Joe Venuti announced that Mark Perry will no longer continue at DPW as of March 1 due to budget constraints.
- The 2023 income from firewood sales is \$6005.00.
- Jim Norwalk and Jim Engel will work on putting together the order for Arbor Day giveaway and nursery trees for this Spring. Possible sources suggested: White Oak Nursery, Canandaigua; Schott Nursery, MD; American Natives, MD.

Small trees and ornamental trees will be the most prominent selections. Jim Engel offered Arrowwood Viburnum (*Viburnum dentatum*) as the shrub we should provide for the Arbor Day giveaway.

- Jay Freer asked that a dying Sugar Maple (#3066) at 114 N. Main St. be added to the REMOVAL list.
- There is at least one tree (honeylocust?) missing from the 5&20 median DRI planting that needs to be replaced.
- Jay Freer reports that researchers are still years away from discovering EAB resistance in existing *Fraxinus*. However, more successful injection methodology is being developed for prophylactic pesticide treatment. Jim Engel reports that Cornell is working with Coldwater Nursery in Phelps to study EAB-resistant grafting scions with Green, White, and Black Ash varieties.

Next Meeting: Thursday March 21st, 2023 NOON at the Geneva Visitor's Center Conference Room.