

**Berkley Tree Board
Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 28, 2022**

Present: D. Hennen, S. Young, K. Karlis, S. Bard, B. Lathrop, T. Losey, H. Tylanda, L. Fritsch, L. Price, M. Leneway

Absent: M. Grassa

Additional visitors: None

Meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes –Oct. 24, 2022 meeting minutes approved.

Review and Approval of Agenda –The agenda was then approved as proposed.

Public Comments- none

Update from DPW for Fall Street Tree Planting – Shawn reported that all trees ordered have been planted while 24 trees are being waited on for spring planting. 15% of the trees planted were maples, while the 100 trees that have been removed are primarily silver maples. Kathy explained to Shawn that at a previous Tree Board Meeting, before Shawn was involved, there was a recommendation and agreement from the DPW to not plant any maples now or in the foreseeable future due to maples comprising approximately 75% of current street tree population. Shawn added that he thought that since the largest loss is and will continue to be maples that it was thought acceptable to plant a small number of maple trees. In addition to the maples, 15 other species were planted for the Fall Street Planting.

Shawn also reported that some species of trees are better to be planted in the Fall but that there may be some tree species that are better to plant in the Spring. But there is some advantage to the DPW to plant all the trees in one planting in the Fall. Shawn is following up with Marine City regarding the risk of Spring vs. Fall planting and added that if more variety of trees is desired, 2 planting each year may be necessary.

Lisa said that a maple tree recently planted in her neighborhood was planted on a lot that already had several maples. Lisa then asked how the trees are assigned to be planted to each house. Shawn said that they leave this to Marine City to decide, giving them only the easement size for consideration. There was then a lot of discussion about whether there should be more consideration given and if the Tree Board should take an active role in designating where to plant each tree. But in the end, the Tree Board agreed to allow Marine City to continue to selecting the tree planting locations as this was the most practical approach.

Shawn also reported that he submitted the City's Tree City USA application.

Urban Tree Canopy Study Updated– Kathy reviewed the updated Urban Tree Canopy Study. As previously recommended by the Tree Board, the PowerPoint file has been updated to explain the

objective of the UTC study and to point out that this study was completed using no cost online public tools instead of using the funds earmarked in the Budget. The Tree Board approved these updates. Tentatively, this is scheduled to be presented at the Dec. 5 City Council meeting. Tricia Losey indicated that she will attend for support. Dennis said he will ask the City to put our topic near the top of the list so we do not have to attend the entire meeting.

Holiday Lights Parade – Participants? : This year’s Holiday Lights Parade is planned for Saturday December 3. The Parade Line Up address is 3269 Bacon in front of the DPW office. The parade is scheduled to start at 5:30 pm, although Shawn added that as our group is scheduled toward the end, we have extra time to get ourselves into the lineup. The parade should take about 30-45 minutes from start to finish. Friends and family are welcome to come and walk with the Tree Board. Kathy, Steve, and Bob L. indicated that they will participate this year

Tribute Tree donations / DPW website – Dennis reported that the Tribute Tree program has been modified to accept tribute donations but the money will go to the tree fund and not to individual trees. The Board discussed advertising the program and when to do that. Arbor Day was suggested as a meaningful time of year to advertise. Physical posting boards, such as at the library, and social media channels were also discussed. Dennis offered to follow up with Torri Mathes, the City’s Communication Manager to help with this. Kathy also suggested that we revisit this topic during Tree Board meetings in 2023.

Public Communications (Facebook) – Kathy share some details from the Tree Board Facebook group. With the help of the Tree Board meeting liking and sharing this content, we now have 432 followers and 63% of those reside in Berkley.

List of Agenda Topic for w/2023 – Kathy shared her list of topics for future meeting. Kathy shared that Larry Sobson from the Michigan DNR has offered to come to one of our meetings early next year. Kathy suggested we invite Larry to introduce himself and let us know what his role is and how he interfaces with our City.

Other Topics not on the agenda – no other topics were added to the agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for January 23 - 2nd Floor Conference Room, Public Safety Building.