



TREE PRESERVATION COMMISSION

TPC Minutes- March 22, 2012

Date of Meeting: March 22, 2012

Location: Village Hall

Start time: 7:45 pm

End Time: 9:00 pm

Board Members Present: Cheryl A. Kiesel, Daniela Gutierrez, Agnieszka Zawisza

Attendees: Erika Kosten, Jean Rak, Les Krzys, Scott Shannon, Andy Smolen, Linda Suwalski

➤ **Approval of Minutes 1/26/12**

- Minutes were not approved and need to be revised. Agnieszka will revise the minutes and they will be approved at our next meeting which is yet to be determined.

➤ **Current Issues**

- Trash/Dumping: There is a lot of locations throughout Franklin Park where there is trash being dumped. *Resolution- call Andy Smolen if you see trash/debris and he will send people to clean up.*
- Infected Trees: There are numerous trees throughout Franklin Park that are being infected by Emerald Ash Borer, an insect species. The insect kills ash trees by destroying the tree's water and nutrient conducting vessels. The EAB is so aggressive that ash trees may die within two-three years after they become infested with the beetle. *Resolution- We are cutting down trees that are infected and planting new trees. A resident also suggested putting coffee grinds around the base of the tree as this is supposed to protect the uninfected trees from becoming infected.*

➤ **Tree City USA update**

- All forms submitted and we are almost approved. We are having our proclamation on Arbor Day, April 28th. We will plant a tree for our proclamation. We are also requesting volunteers to help plant flowers and trees around the village. Once everything is completed we are going to request that Franklin Park residents and members of the TPC sign up with the Arbor Day Foundation so that we can get the free trees that come with the membership. These trees will be stored and taken care of in our Village Greenhouse. It was suggested by two of the residents attending the meeting to plant a few trees on Sheila Street and Calwagner.

➤ **Yellow Curbs update**

- Andy Smolen and a few other members of the village tried to pressure wash some of the yellow curbs. Some of the paint is so old that they are not able to get it off. Andy is going to reach out to



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the high school and others to get volunteers to help scrap off the existing paint. The village has decided not to repaint the curbs.

➤ Media

- Our group was featured in the village newsletter for the first time in the March water billing. Cheryl worked with the village to set up an email address for the TPC. We have created this email address, beautifyingfranklinpark@vofp.com, so residents can easily contact us with any questions, ideas or to volunteer. We plan to provide content to the village newsletter on a regular basis. The content will include our TPC goals, current projects and events. Agnieszka has also worked with the library to set up an area for our green initiatives including how to create a rain garden, green lawn care, composting, rain barrels and other green thinking ideas.

➤ Current Projects

- **Grand Ave. and Manheim beautification progress and next step**

This is our main project. We would like to clean up this area- Grand Avenue from the underpass to Manheim Road – by planting more trees and gardens. Agnieszka will reach out to a landscape architect so that we can get an idea of what we would like Grand Ave to look like 5 years from now and what we have to do and what budget we need to get there. We have a \$6,000 grant to use on Grand Avenue this year. Cheryl suggested putting an ordinance together that states that any business in Franklin Park must abide by the following:

 - * *All lighted signs to be in working order and any out bulbs to be replaced within 30 days.*
 - * *Any trash or debris surrounding business to be picked up. Area surrounding business to be maintained.*
 - * *All window signs to be approved by village. Signs should not cover the entire window and should be written in a professional and clean manner.*
 - * *Any planters, trees or gardens planted by the village not to be destroyed or left unmaintained.*

This ordinance will be discussed in greater detail at one of the next meetings with the board.

- **Greenhouse**

We have found a location to house our green initiatives and green house planting- 9621 Pacific Avenue. The TPC will meet on April 6, 2012 to set up the greenhouse and start planting seeds for our gardens. We have a grant that we received for \$1,000 to go towards seeds and flowers. The plan is to have some of the flowers started and ready for planting on April 28, 2012- our Day of Proclamation.
- **Rain Gardens and Green Lawn Care**



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Information on these items can be found at our village library- where we have set up a section on Green initiatives. We plan to put a rain garden in front of Village Hall and in a few other locations around the village.

➤ Open Discussion

Ken Zurek

- Discussed Barrett Pedersen and Andrew Smolen position in the village.

➤ Action Items

What	Who is responsible	Complete this action by
Minutes from previous meeting	Agnieszka Zawisza	Next TPC Meeting - TBD
Complete Tree City USA	Andy Smolen	ASAP
Volunteers for Yellow Curbs	Andy Smolen	Spring/Summer 2012
Green section in Library	Agnieszka Zawisza	ASAP
Landscape Architect for Grand Ave	Agnieszka Zawisza	Spring 2012
Set up Greenhouse	Cheryl Kiesel	April 2012
Rain garden village hall	Agnieszka Zawisza	Spring/Summer 2012
Trees on Sheila Street- get approval from residents	Les Krzys	April 2012
Look into hanging baskets for Franklin Ave	Andy Smolen	Spring 2012
Public Trash cans for Chestnut- tracks to Elm	Andy Smolen	April 2012
Look into creating an environmental ordinance similar to Park Ridge	Agnieszka Zawisza	Spring/Summer 2012
Contact Metra about cleaning up trash along tracks in FP and trimming plants/ pulling weeds	Andy Smolen	Spring 2012
Look into repaving road on Belmont- Post Office to Manheim	Andy Smolen	Spring/Summer 2012