



Swissvale Shade Tree Advisory Commission Meeting
February 8, 2023 7:00 pm via Zoom

Attending:, Barb Grabowski, Gib Miller, Keith Moore,
Cynthia Pagesh, Jan Raether, Mike Takacs

- Thank you to Mike and Kurt for signing up for another official term on the SSTAC.
- We are still waiting to hear about the TreeCity USA application for 2022. It was submitted on December 16, 2022.
- We have tree requests for 1237 Lancaster Ave and 7729 Stanton Ave. There are at least seven open pits on Edgewood Avenue near the Busway that could use replacement trees. Residents are reading the Swissvalian and that may spark more interest
- If Julie Ann has time to prepare them, we should install tree tags on the new Swissvale trees planted last Fall. Gib updated the listing for tree tags in the tree inventory. This would be great to include as part of a tree care event. The tree stakes and ties need to be taken off the trees in the Park Avenue Square off Monongahela Avenue. Let's plan to meet there on Saturday (2/25/2023) at 9:30 am to take care of that and put out tree tags if they're ready.
- Gib had a discussion with Jake Milofsky from Tree Pittsburgh concerning providing trees for the Swissvale Pollinator Garden on Edgewood Avenue and for the lot next to Naomi's House on Roslyn Avenue. Follow up meetings are scheduled for this Friday (2/10/2023) at 9:30 am and 10:30 am. Gib is planning to attend, but all are welcome.
- Jake mentioned that Tree Pittsburgh is being funded by the Pittsburgh Penguins and Pirates to provide trees for the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County. They are looking for good planting locations and are trying to involve non-profits or local tree organizations.
- Gib looked at the nine Callery Pear trees in front of Hawthorne Place Apartments on Hawthorne Avenue. A resident (Tina Casale) had pointed these out as being in rough shape. Gib looked at them and they definitely could use mulching. The tree pits and tree band are small and the trees have outgrown them. They will need to be looked at in the Spring to better gauge their overall health. This would be a good Spring project.
- Gib contacted Seth Bush, who lives on Woodstock Avenue, concerning street trees. Seth agreed to work with us to set a time in March or April to discuss street trees with a group of Woodstock Avenue residents. This group is working to re-purpose vacant lots near them and seemed to be interested in adding some trees in this area, where they currently are very sparse.