



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

Attending:, Barb Grabowski, Gib Miller, Julie Ann Mountain, Jan Raether, Perry Recker

- We are still waiting to hear about the TreeCity USA application for 2023. It was submitted on December 16, 2022. Our previous contact at PA DCNR (Celine Colbert) appears to not work there anymore. In past years, her signoff was the trigger for Arbor Day Foundation to proceed with evaluation of applications. Gib has contacted the Arbor Day Foundation and PA DCNR via email to follow up.
- We have tree requests for 1237 Lancaster Ave (2 or 3 trees) and 7729 Stanton Ave (one tree). There are also eight open pits on Edgewood Avenue near the Busway that could use replacement trees. Gib talked to Greg Bachy and provided a list of the tree pit work that needs to be done, so that the DPW can try to take care of them as they have time. There are two empty tree pits along Braddock Avenue in the Regent Square business district that could also be candidates for new trees.
- 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.
- Kurt and Gib removed the tree stakes and ties from the trees in the Park Avenue Square off Monongahela Avenue. Some pruning was also done. Most appear healthy, but some of the very small container trees from Tree Pittsburgh haven't grown much. One maple tree had some Spotted Lantern Fly egg cases and the Leland Spruces had a good bit of brown-out, with no obvious insect problem.
- Julie Ann removed more bagworms from the trees in the Church & Braddock parklet.
- The first work session at the Swissvale Pollinator garden on Edgewood Avenue is March 11 at 10:00 am. The next two sessions are April 8 and May 6.
- Gib talked to Dave Yargeau from MVI about the nine Callery Pear trees in front of Hawthorne Place Apartments on Hawthorne Avenue. Dave identified that MVI had been contacted about them also and are planning an MVI work session in the next month or so. Gib will try to find out the date and pass it along to the committee.
- Gib contacted Seth Bush, who lives on Woodstock Avenue, concerning street trees. March 11 at 1:00 pm was set to discuss street trees with a group of Woodstock Avenue residents. Any committee members who are available are welcome to join in. 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.