

LIVINGSTON TREE BOARD

REGULAR MEETING November 18, 2021, Zoom

MINUTES

Attendance: Marshall Swearingen, Lisa Harreld, Sarah Boyle, Maureen Lighthiser, Tom Shands, Susan Regele, Erica Lighthiser, Robin Endicott, Laurel Desnick, Sara Stands

Approval of Minutes: No minutes available to approve.

Old Business:

- **Recommendation letter for FY 2022 board priorities and budgeting** – Marshall put together the budget proposal and priority letter to be submitted to the city. A recommendation was made to include clear language about tree maintenance. It needs to be spelled out that maintenance is as important as tree purchase price when budgeting for new trees. We can also emphasize how trees can effect safety and traffic calming. We would also like to continue to get information from state agencies about potential for tree planting on Park Street as a state road. It's not too early to get recommendation in for 2022 budget and priorities. The board is in agreement with the rough draft Marshall prepared.
- **New Business:**
- **Public Comment** –
 - **Erica Lighthiser gave an update on the ongoing fundraising sponsored by the PCEC** – So far they have raised \$7580 and plan to continue to the effort. Some ideas for locations for tree planting include near the hospital, at McNair skate park, and planting in the new neighborhoods, and continue the adopt a tree effort. They will continue to work with the city in the planting efforts. They will also look into paring with other volunteer organizations, such as Americore, for planting efforts. Tom asked how the tree board can support these efforts. PCEC will bring their ideas to the city commission. Tree board will write a letter of support.
 - **Sara Stands** – She had some questions about the tree removal at Meyers Landing trail. This lead to a discussion about protecting riparian systems vs. removing trees for being hazardous to the public. Who makes the decisions? What are the safety protocols? These questions could be addressed in a tree management study and plan. The Tree Board could ask for a staff report to address safety issues. The Tree Board has been working with Dan Busch since Eric Schneider's retirement. Dan has been a frequent attendee at the Tree Board meetings and has been helpful with providing information to the Public Works Director and bringing questions and concerns to the Public Works Department.

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 pm. Next meeting December 16, 2021 at noon.