



**TREE BOARD
MEETING
September 8th, 2022
6:30 p.m.
Via Zoom**

MINUTES

Members present: Brad Jones
Susie Deiters
Patricia Calcagno
Jim Darnell
Steve Sanchez

Staff Present: Gina Hill
Adrian Langston

Item No. 1 Meeting Called to Order/Adoption of Agenda
Jim Darnell moves to adopt. Patricia Calcagno seconds. All ayes.

Item No. 2 Approval of Minutes
No minutes to approve due to technical difficulties recording the last meeting.

Item No. 3 **September 24th Arboretum Marker Placement**

AE Garden Club Plan? (Patricia Calcagno clarified this is the Tree Board's project, partially funded/assisted by the Avondale Estates Garden Club.)

How many Tree Board members will assist AEGC? (Patricia Calcagno, Christi Granger, Brad Jones, Tracy McClendon, Steve Sanchez, Peg Wyse have volunteered. Email Brad if other TB members can join Saturday. Adrian reminded members that the City can take care of any extra granite markers.)

(Brad reminded folks to come to Peg Wyse's house, 1 Lakeshore Pl, **Saturday at 9am**. Bring gloves, shovel/small trowel.)

(Patricia asked Brad/Steve to send the list of selected trees to Peg Wyse, so she can label the corresponding address ahead of time.)

Publicity? (Susie Deiters will recruit GCG volunteers. Brad asking Ellen/City to include in E-Blast. It is being publicized within the AEGC.)

Item No. 4 **Arboretum Brochure & Map**

Brad will create the map. It can't include every tree. Maybe highlight 15 - 20 trees? (The map should be included on the City Website.)

Need suggestions on which trees to include.

Welcome help in designing the brochure. (Susie will bring a copy of the Arboretum brochure from Sewanee, TN.)

Item No. 5 **Trees Atlanta Planting Day**

Select date. (No date set. Could be in November (except the 11th) or January. If in January, maybe a later start time?)

Who coordinates? (coffee, water, doughnuts, pizza?). (The Tree Board will divide responsibilities for snacks and the City will provide coffee and water.)

TB recommendations on areas in the City that are priorities for new planting or that have the potential for 'chunk plantings'? Can receive a good number of trees at once? (Brad and Steve will work with Adrian offline to locate those areas.)

(Susie commented on the TA volunteer demographic and wondered if the City/TB could offer volunteers a coupon for a free beer in downtown Avondale Estates? It would be a nice way to introduce these outsiders to our growing downtown area. She will see what the DDA could do to help.)

Item No. 6 **Verge Tree Care Brochure**

Coordinate with Ellen Powell to see how this info can be included in the newsletter as a "pull out" piece.

Somebody to assist Brad, Ellen with this project? (Brad will provide content for it. Lindsey Marcec is very interested in helping with the brochure design and content editing.)

Item No. 7 **Verge Tree Pruning by the City**

TB to let Adrian know which stretches need priority for limbing up. (Steve Sanchez has a list of trees that need pruning. He will share with Adrian. Susie suggested priority should be for all heavily-trafficked streets, like Clarendon, S. Avondale, and Kensington.)

Item No. 8 **Greenspace Manager Comments**

Front Yard Tree Program: (This is a long term goal. The idea is to educate private property owners about the trees they choose to plant in their own yards and their effect on the biomass. A good program for education and community building. And of course, the environment.)

"Year 5" Pruning/ Volunteer Pruning Lesson: (Adrian has identified an area on Dartmouth/near Fairfield where Black Gum trees need structural pruning. He'll focus on PW, but citizens are welcomed to join. Adrian will let us know when the pruning lesson will happen.)

One Million Trees: (Adrian has initiated a convo with TA to partner in their million tree initiative. Their current municipal partners are Atlanta, Brookhaven, College Park, Decatur, Doraville, Dunwoody, East Point, Hapeville, Norcross, Sandy Springs, Smyrna, South Fulton – the requirements to join seem to be agreeable. He'll update when he has more information.)

Other: (Willis Park losing trees. Add more restoration trees in Willis Park. Discussion of how to educate and prevent damage to the trees by Park users, mostly children. Most of the damage GCG volunteers see is from children tearing down limbs, pulling off leaves, and damaging the bark. Could there be an educational unit with AE Schools to teach about the importance of trees?)

Item No. 9

Public Comment: None

Item No. 10

Adjournment

Jim Darnell moved to adjourn. Steve Sanchez seconded. All ayes.