



## **ONGOING COMMISSION PROJECTS**

### Bikes

Chairperson Amadon requested Councilmember Robertson follow up with the Town Board on the status of the letter from West Seneca Bikes that was forwarded to the Town Board in March of 2023. Councilmember Robertson stated he will investigate this item. Ms. Bagley will forward a copy of the letter to Councilmember Robertson and all commission members.

### Trees

Chairperson Amadon stated the town was awarded a grant from the NYSDEC to conduct a tree inventory and create an urban forestry management plan and noted West Seneca was the only town in Erie County to receive this grant. Within the grant the Environmental Commission was identified as a partner with the town to assist with public outreach and education throughout the project implementation and a sub-committee should be formed to support this activity.

Chairperson Amadon stated the following are steps of the project:

- ✓ Selection of a tree company to perform the tree inventory of trees in town parks and rights-of-way on town owned streets
- ✓ Determination of type, location, and state of the trees
- ✓ Identification of locations for replacement of trees
- ✓ Kickoff meeting with all involved parties and public awareness
- ✓ NYSDEC will conduct an inspection to verify the accuracy of the inventory
- ✓ Develop an urban forestry management plan

Ms. Bagley questioned the timeframe for the project. Chairperson Amadon stated he believes the project could take two years to complete. Ms. Bagley questioned who selects the tree company. Chairperson Amadon stated the town will select the company and a few estimates were obtained during the application process, but additional quotes may be needed.

Mr. Taylor, Ms. Bagley, and Mr. Mudd volunteered for the sub-committee. Chairperson Amadon stated the town needs an updated list of trees to choose from and questioned if the sub-committee would take this task on. Mr. Mudd stated when investigating trees approved to plant on his property, he was given a list of four species noting none of the trees are native to this area and one is considered semi-invasive. The list provided by Ms. Hernon provides a good start for the commission. (List attached for reference.)

### Education

Chairperson Amadon stated there are no new items.

### Waterways

Chairperson Amadon stated Ms. Hicks is not present to provide any updates but questioned the status of the order of storm drain medallions. Councilmember Robertson stated he will follow up on this item.

### Community Needs and Interests

Chairperson Amadon stated he will forward an email from Ms. Hicks to the committee members regarding orders for coniferous trees. Ms. Bagley questioned if this program was through NYS. Chairperson Amadon confirmed that it is.

**GOVERNANCE**

Chairperson Amadon stated there are currently four openings on the Environmental Commission and one must be a youth member.

Chairperson Amadon stated establishing a Treasurer/Financial Secretary and discussing financial reports will be held until the next meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Bagley stated the Environmental Commission should be made aware of the composting program sponsored by the town and questioned the status. Additionally, Ms. Bagley suggested a commission member should be present at a table during the Farmers Market with produce.

West Seneca resident Barbara Lipew stated N.E.S.T., Northeast Solid Waste Management of Erie County, is offering subsidizing for backyard composting. Councilmember Robertson questioned if this program is part of the Farmer Pirates program. Ms. Lipew stated it is not, the Farmer Pirates collect the waste and compost it at their own site. Councilmember Robertson stated N.E.S.T. could complete the application process to participate at the Farmers Market, also. Ms. Herson stated the Farmer Pirates' pilot program is underway and the town has paid for the program for this year.

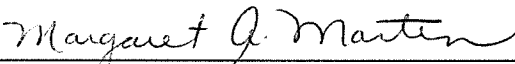
**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mr. Mudd, seconded by Ms. Bagley, to adjourn the meeting at 7 P.M.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

  
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Margaret A. Martin  
Deputy Town Clerk/Secretary to the Environmental Commission

Native, Small Trees (<30')

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	Chokecherry
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Eastern Redbud
<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	Allegheny Serviceberry
<i>Comus florida</i>	Flowering Dogwood
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	American Hornbeam
<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	Common Serviceberry
<i>Crataegus spp.</i>	Hawthorn

Native, Large Trees (>30')

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Northern Hackberry
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red Maple...and several other maples
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	American Hop-Hornbeam
<i>Quercus spp.</i>	Swamp White, Scarlet, Bur, Black, White, Chestnut (Oaks)
<i>Tilia americana</i>	American Basswood
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Blackgum
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tulip Tree