

## **Michiana Tree Board Meeting**

**April 30, 2025**

**1:00pm EST**

**Attendees:** Andrew Aronson, Rick Reitz, and Karen Szyp were present. Anne Blasko and Nancy Thill phoned in. No residents were present.

The board members read through the tree ordinance to make edits and correct typos. Nancy will make the changes and submit to council for approval.

The suggested Tree List should be on the back of the tree removal permit application.

Contractors must call Miss Dig prior to stump grinding. Rick will contact someone from EGLE to get specifics on stump grinding.

An arbor vitae hedge at Ponchartrain and Pocantico was discussed due to obstruction. The homeowner will receive a letter requiring them to trim the hedge (Section 7).

The board discussed the priority tree removal list and the priority prune list from the UFMP. Rick said there are some bad mulberry trees that are not on the removal list. There are some vines growing on a Siberian Elm tree at Stop 42 that should be removed.

Arbor Day in Michiana is July 10, 2025, at 10am EST.

Protective fencing around trees in park was removed for summer. Rick will re-install the fences after Labor Day when the deer rub their antlers on trees.

The Master Plan task force will be gathering information about trees for the updated 5-Year Plan. Nancy requested that the Park plan be included in the Master Plan.

The Master Plan public survey results were as follows regarding trees: replant trees illegally removed, maintain and protect the tree canopy, and permits should be required for tree removal.

Future needs:

Coordination of Tree ordinance between all departments (Julie Bonello can help facilitate this during MP discussions).

Implementation of the Master Plan regarding Trees.

Karen Szyp moved to close the meeting at 3:27pm EST. Andrew Aronson seconded.