

**City of Belpre Tree Commission**  
**Annual Report**  
**2019**

The City of Belpre Tree Commission was created with the passages of local ordinance 38 (94- 95) in November 1995. The duties of Belpre Tree Commission are as follows:

- To study, investigate, plan, advise and report any action to the city regarding tree management
- To assist the proper city officials as well as the city council and citizens to find or determine to be necessary or advisable for care, preservation, trimming, planting, removal or disposition of trees and shrubs in public ways, streets and alleys
- To provide regular and special meetings at which the subject of trees as it relates to the city may be discussed by members of the Tree Commission and city personnel and all others interested in the tree program
- To recommend to the city the type and kind of trees to be planted on city streets and parks as designated

The Belpre Tree Commission is approved and appointed by the Mayor of the City of Belpre. Those members are:

Mike Lorentz Mayor	Maxine Mobbs Chairperson/team member
Connie Hoblitzell Safety/Service Director	Sheila McCloud Secretary/team member
Jon Neff Nursery Professional (Bobs Market)	Susan McCloud Team member
Ann Bonner ODNR/Division of Forestry	Paul Mobbs Team member
Leslie Pittenger City Auditor	Joyce Lorentz Team member
Marcus McCartney OSU Extension Office	
Elmer Lee Shutts City Council Recreation Committee Chairperson	

Belpre Tree Commission is honored to present to the Mayor and the City Council the following accomplishments, organization goals and objectives for the coming year of 2020.

### Accomplishments

As part of growing our healthy tree canopy we did the following things.

#### **Tree planting**

- Three Memorial trees were planted
  - One in Howes Grove Park and Two in Civitan Park
- One Arbor Day Tree was planted by the Senior Citizens building
- Eight trees were planted in Civitan Park
- Three trees were planted on Boulevard Drive by the residents
- Total cost was \$2280 including mulch and soil

#### **Tree removals**

- Ten trees were cut down, four in early December 2018 and six in October 2019
- We had a total of 236.25 volunteer hours (costing \$5594.60) 77 hours for the Mayor. No youth or Recreation Chair hours have been reported.
- The revision of our tree ordinances started last year are still with the City Attorney waiting for approval.
- A talk was given to the Rotary Club on April 3, 2019 about what the Tree Commission does. It is hoped that they will partner with us later.
- Kraton Polymers invited us to their Earth Day celebrations on April 18, 2019 where we put on a display and gave away information and free leaflets about how to plant trees and care for them.
- On May 3, 2019 we hosted Tree City USA for the South East Ohio region. At this event the Arbor Day tree was planted near the Senior Citizens Center after the Mayor read the proclamation at 11:45 am.

### Educational Accomplishments

- June 21, 2019, four people went to the 40th year anniversary of the ODNR Urban Forestry at the Ohio State Fair Grounds in Columbus.
- October 19, 2019, one member attended the now Annual Tree Survival School at Riverfront Park in Little Hocking. More knowledge was gained as were new practical skills. They also saw which trees had survived from last year.

## Partnerships

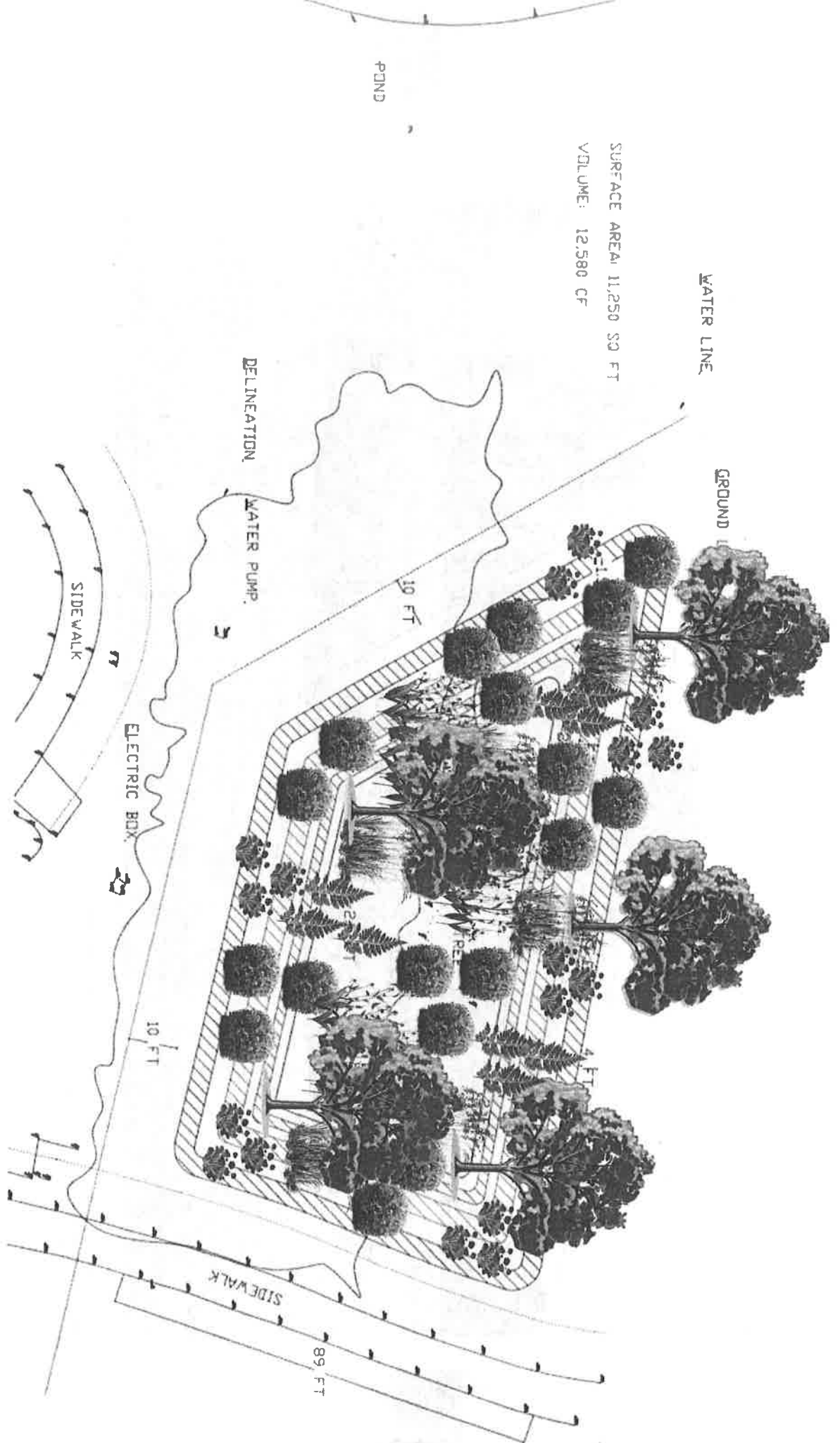
- We partnered with Belpre Women's Club for the Arbor Day tree which they bought.
- We continue the partnership with Ohio University's Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs who are helping us with the project of building a rain garden to the east of the pond in Civitan Park. They have found us a grant of around \$10,000. The building of this area should start in early Spring 2020.
- We are working with OSU Extension Officer Marcus McCartney to plan an apple tree grafting from the Holdren apple trees in Civitan Park. These are very old now and we lost one in 2017 and the others are not in a very good state. As we need to remove them for the rain garden project this seems like a good idea to try and save them.

## Goals and Objectives

- To have the revised ordinances approved by the City Attorney and the City Council
- Continue to be a Tree City USA and have an Arbor Day program
- To continue to grow our tree canopy by planting two trees for everyone removed and increase the tree canopy by 25 percent
- Continue our education of all Tree Commission members
- Know which of our trees are heritage trees and continue to protect them
- Put in place a tree monitoring plan for recognition of pests and diseases. Also, a plan to take care of all the trees belonging to the City from the newest planted to the oldest still standing. This will include watering, mulching, pruning, removal of dead limbs and trimming certain trees so the canopy is above pedestrian and vehicle heights
- Access Park- these historical trees on the right as you go to the boat launch ramp need signage made bigger and make this the start of Belpres Arboretum
- Continue as an active Tree Commission
- Continue to be a Community Forestry Program with an annual budget of at least \$3 per capita

Respectfully submitted,  
City of Belpre Tree Commission

SURFACE AREA: 11,250 SQ FT  
VOLUME: 12,580 CF



POND

WATER LINE

GROUND

DELINEATION

WATER PUMP

10 FT

10 FT

10 FT

89 FT

SIDE WALK

ELECTRIC BOX

SIDE WALK