

Findlay Shade Tree Commission (FSTC) Meeting #2 Minutes March 07, 2024

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Meeting was held on March 07, 2024 at 11:35 am, in the Municipal Building Large Conference Room.

Attendance: Brian Bauman, Haley Belisle, AJ Copus, Jane Ebersole, Dave Honse, Jeremy Kalb, and Rick Watson. Also in attendance was Jaclynn Hohman, City Project Manager.

Welcome: Haley (Chair) thanked everyone for attending.

Minutes: February meeting minutes were presented. Brian moved, Rick seconded motion to approve, vote unanimous.

Financial Report: Haley distributed report for review. There have been 24 Tree City USA banners ordered to be placed on downtown corners rather than just one city block. There may be another 8 ordered; the banners will look the same but display the newer city logo. The total will be approximately \$2300.

Reports

- **City Council Representative** – No report.
- **Public Works Department (PWD)** – Green Waste site will be open on April 2nd.
- **Engineering Department** – Property on the NE corner of Bright Rd. and SR 568 is looking for barrier trees along the Greenway Trail. Engineering will set up a meeting to review property and consult tree planting as well as plantings along the trail. Discussion of possible barriers to the walkway along the roadside, but this is under the jurisdiction of ODOT.

Old Business

- **Tree City USA** application is approved.
- **Canopy Restoration Project** – The ARPA Tree Planting is being embraced by Findlay, and there are so far about 280 requests for trees beyond the normal “Adopt-a-Tree” process. There will be no need for doorhangers to prompt sign-ups. We are hoping to meet with PW to look at the requests and divide the names among STC members and the PWD. A spreadsheet will be shared to keep track of the work status of each property. PWD will start assessing and contacting participants. The grant money will end December 31, 2024.
- **Ohio’s Urban Forestry Grant** monies go through June 30, 2025, with a possibility of extensions.
- **Adopt-A-Tree** – Plan to finish AAT participants separately from the Restoration Project. AAT participants will be able to select from the list of Pot-in-Pot trees from the nursery. Trees will be ordered with Arbor Day tree. Plan for participants to pick up and plant in late April.
- **Arbor Day** – Jane reported that the Arbor Day seedlings would once again be donated by N. Branch Nursery. Celebration will be held at Bigelow Hill Intermediate School on Friday April 26, at 2:00 PM. STC members and Council members should save the date.

New Business

- **Homegrown Habitat** – Jane reminded members of Homegrown Habitat, featuring author and entomologist Doug Tallamy. The program is being held at UF Winebrenner from 9 AM – 2 PM. Registration deadline: April 12, 2024 at homegrownhabitat.org.

With no further business, Haley adjourned the meeting at 12:35 pm.

Next meeting will be Thursday April 4 at 11:30 am in Municipal Building. Scribed by Jane Ebersole and submitted by Haley Belisle.