

Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes

May 2, 2017

Attendees: Karl Farwig, Tom Mills, Mary Flickinger, Jerry Williamson, Jim Niemeyer, AJ Copus, Dave Honse, Jeremy Kalb

Not Present: Tim Brugeman, Randy Greeno, Paul Schmelzer

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Tom Mills at 4 pm.

Minutes from the April 4 meeting were reviewed and a motion was made to accept by Jerry Williamson with Jim Niemeyer seconding. Motion passed.

No finance report for the month.

Tom mentioned the importance of tracking time on the form.

City Council – Jim mentioned that the Japanese Cherry tree would be planted in Dorney Plaza at the request of Mayor Mihalik and Service Safety Director, Paul Schmelzer. The City agreed to take on any extra costs to properly maintain these trees.

City Service Director – no report

Public Works Department – AJ mentioned Meyer Tree Service still working on tree removal. He also mentioned the website needs to have a list of restricted trees added for residents to view.

Engineering Department – Jeremy mentioned several big projects are starting. Discussion was held on getting the Shade Tree Commission involved in planting trees where trees are removed on these projects. The project would pay for the cost of the trees, but the Shade Tree Commission would need to work with the residents and plant the trees, etc. much like the Neighborwoods Project.

Neighborwoods Project – no report, however it was mentioned the trees were planted on April 29.

Arbor Day -Tom Mills review the Arbor Day plan. This event will be held at Jacobs School at 1 pm on Monday, May 8.

Marketing Focus: Tom mentioned nothing in detail to cover and we should all continue to look at opportunities. More to come on this at future meetings.

New Business:

Lost Your Tree Card – Tom brought forth an idea to send a postcard out to residents that have lost a tree in their tree lawn that tells them the process to follow to get a replacement. After much discussion, it was decided that the Public Works Departments reviews this with the resident already and this would be a duplication of work. This will not be implemented.

“Coldwater Program” – Tom Mills presented an idea that would allow for residents to get a list of so called approved contractors to do tree services in Findlay. After much discussion, it was determined this would not be prudent to do, and if we want to move it forward there must be significant legal review conducted.

Banner Book – Tom Mills mentioned he has a catalog that shows various banner and signage materials. Anyone who wants to replace signage could review this catalog for ideas and pricing.

Other:

Tree Survivor School – Jerry Williamson attended this course. Jerry said the course was outstanding and they emphasized that you only get 1 chance to plant a tree correctly. Also, stressed implementing a tree pruning practice and involving arborists in tree review and work.

Motion to adjourn was made by Jim Niemeyer and was seconded by Jerry Williamson. Motion passed.

Next meeting is August 1, 2017.

Findlay Shade Tree Commission
Trees Prohibited in Tree Lawns & Other Public Places
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The following LIST of material shall not be planted in tree lawns and other public places without specific consent of the Findlay Shade Tree Commission:

- Acer negundo (Boxelder)
- Acer saccharinum (Silver Maple)
- Aesculus species (Buckeye)
- Allanthus (Tree of Heaven)
- Betula species (Birch except River Birch)
- Catalpa species (Catalpa)
- Eleagnus angustifolia (Russian Olive)
- Evergreen trees (any kind)
- Fraxinus species (Ash)
- Fruit tree cultivars (any kind)
- Gingko biloba (Female Gingko, male OK)
- Morus species (Mulberry)
- Populus species (Cottonwood, Poplar)
- Pyrus species (all varieties – Flowering Pear)
- Robinia pseudoacacia (Black Locust)
- Salix species (Willow)
- Shrubs (any kind)
- Sorbus aucuparia (European Mountain Ash)
- Ulmus select varieties (Siberian, Red Elm)

New varieties of trees, non-invasive, urban tolerant and potentially suitable for planting as may become available, are subject to Tree Commission approval for planting.

This LIST may be updated from time to time as needed and circulated for public use.

Whenever any tree or shrub shall be planted or set out in conflict with this list, the Service Safety Director may cause the removal of the same WITHOUT obligating the City to replace the illegally planted items.

The Tree Commission may be contacted through the Mayor's Office in the Findlay Municipal Building.

Adopted: (date)

Findlay Shade Tree Commission - Tree Replacement Planting Program

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In addition to the annual NeighborWoods Tree Planting Projects, a "replacement" tree planting program by the Tree Commission and Public Services Department offers to provide City property owner's trees be re-planted in locations where the City has removed trees for various purposes such as:

- Storm damage
- Dead or dying trees of potential hazard
- Utilities work along public rights of way
- Construction for street or other public improvements

Guidelines:

- Requests for replacement trees may be made to the City of Findlay Public Works Department, who will verify the original tree removals. Request will include name of landowner making request and address, with suggested number of trees and types.
- Public Works Department or City Engineers Office may also initiate a request for replacement trees in advance of projects where trees will be removed and re-planting may be appropriate to plan with area residents affected by projects.
- Requests will be referred to Tree Commission to check locations for proper spacing, recommended number and types (species / cultivars) of replacement trees appropriate for neighborhood character and how best to handle planting replacement costs (Tree Commission budget, Public Services Department, private pay or donation). Property owners may be responsible to pay for part of the tree cost (currently \$25 per tree), and for planting and care of any trees to be replanted along their property.
- A Request does not guarantee a tree(s) will be approved due to site locations and conditions, and are subject to available funds. If not approved by City due to locations, no trees are to be planted by others in areas prohibited as denied by the request.
- Property owners will be notified by Tree Commission or Public Works Department on the decision of the Request following the Tree Commission meeting of its consideration.
- Tree Commission will coordinate with Public Works Department staff, and property owner, for planting the replacement trees as approved, as time and funds permit.

Note: Refer to Findlay's Tree Ordinance serves as basis for reviewing requests, as well as future plans, site restrictions by Public Works and City Engineering Departments.

The Tree Commission may be contacted through the Mayor's Office in the Findlay Municipal Building.

Adopted: (date)

