

Findlay Shade Tree Commission

Minutes of April 7, 2008

Meeting convened at 7:00PM in the Municipal Building Conference Room by Chair Ed Crawford. Those in attendance were: Brooks Bosse, Ed Crawford, Linda Casey, Bruce Hardy, Mike Jurkiewicz, Rick Kidwell, Bill Malloy, Deb Seng, Cathy Smith, Mark Steward, and Matt Stoffel.

Minutes for the meeting of March 11, 2008 were approved.

Reports

Street Dept. – Matt Stoffel

Matt shared pricing information on the mulch and compost available from the city. The crews continue to work on grinding, etc. as time allows.

For the Adopt-A-Tree program, Matt will check on the inventory of watering tube, although he isn't certain there is any on hand. He will also arrange for several Boy Scouts to assist with loading trees, etc.

The procedure for removal of trees in construction areas (sidewalks, etc.) and the removal of ash trees on city property was presented. Ash trees showing stress from EAB will be removed.

Engineering Dept. – Mark Steward.

Planting cells in new park at Sandusky and Main Street have been installed.

He has been working with Cathy on markings for plantings, etc. in other areas.

City Council – Deb Seng

Council was surprised at the significant numbers of ash trees in the city.

Deb inquired as to the exact content of what she should present to council with respect to the Shade Tree Commission activities.

Service Director – Bruce Hardy

The recommendation to change the term of service for Shade Tree Commission members from four years to three years will be presented to council.

Bruce discussed the Carlin Street property, site of the new Street Department. The city has agreed to install plantings to screen the area from neighbors. Cathy will work with the property owners. The city side will possibly be bermed with a double row of trees.

Brooks recommended that the mayor encourage plantings throughout the city.

City Forester – Cathy Smith

EAB meeting with city officials was held. Cathy questioned if the procedure that Matt presented was "final" with respect to the removal of ash trees. She had a call from a resident with respect to an ash tree on private property. She told the person to enjoy it while it is healthy.

The Gateway Project grass plantings were about 75% completed on the Saturday work day. She thanked those that had volunteered. The Street Dept. will assist with completing the planting.

Tree inspections have been on hold, will pick-up again in the next few weeks.

Hardy rubber trees will be planted in the cells in the new park.

Old Business

The city is not able to handle the processing of donations for the Memorial Tree program. Discussion was held about “connecting” with another 501 3(c) group for those donations. Discussion will continue.

Arbor Day program will be held on April 25th at Washington Intermediate School. The 1:30PM program will feature a presentation by Mayor Sehnert. The tree, donated by Jackie Berger, will be planted following the presentation. The planting hole will need to be prepped beforehand. Brooks volunteered to assist with that process.

New Business

Adopt-A-Tree applications were distributed to the Shade Tree Commission members. Planting guidelines and restrictions were reviewed. Completed inspections are to be returned to Ed.

Responsibilities on distribution day were reviewed.

Next Meeting – May 5, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Kidwell
Secretary