

**Findlay Shade Tree Commission**  
Minutes of August 4, 2008

Meeting convened at 7:05PM in the Municipal Building Conference Room by Chair Mike Jurkiewicz. Those in attendance were: Brooks Bosse, Bruce Hardy, Mike Jurkiewicz, Rick Kidwell, Deb Seng, Cathy Smith, Mark Steward, and Matt Stoffel.

Minutes for the meeting of July 7, 2008 were approved as corrected. (Under New Business Brad Bosse was corrected to Brooks Bosse).

Reports

**Street Dept.** – Matt Stoffel

Matt reported that minimal tree removal work had been completed as the crews are busy with other projects.

**Engineering Dept.** – Mark Steward

Mark shared additional information received with respect to the rubber sidewalks.

**City Council** – Deb Seng

Deb reported that Councilman Schedel had received additional contacts about the potential removal of ash trees at Firestine Park. A community meeting may be scheduled to discuss this concern. Deb suggested that the meeting be put on hold until the Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan is approved by council.

**Service Director** – Bruce Hardy

The letter, with respect to the Austree plantings along East Sandusky Street, has been reviewed by AEP. AEP has rejected much of the language in the letter. Bruce will continue to work on this project.

The revised EAB Management Plan will be presented to council at the next regular meeting.

**City Forester** – Cathy Smith

Cathy reported that the Eagle Scout candidate working at Firestine Park has completed the inventory (100 ash trees, 50 other species). He will be starting the inventory of Riverside Park in the near future. Another Eagle Scout candidate will begin working on an inventory at Maple Grove.

Cathy stated that there is about a 90% survival rate for the grasses planted at the Gateway Projects. Seven of the trees have died. ODOT recently used the hydro-seeder to thoroughly water the plantings.

She attended an EAB update meeting. Stephanie Miller stated that she believes the infestation is well established in the city. News on the EAB continues to pretty negative.

Cathy asked if she could obtain a list of streets to be curbed so she could evaluate the trees prior to the project commencing. The list of proposed projects is generally completed by the end of March each year. Matt explained the procedure for installing curbing and the provisions not to remove/damage trees if possible.

**Old Business**

A newspaper article, handled by Ed, with respect to the fall planting program will be in the newspaper in the near future. November 1<sup>st</sup> will be distribution date. It will probably be held at The Cube. Cathy has ordered 78 trees (50 for the fall planting program and the others for planting in the parks. She has been promoting the fall program when she meets with residents where trees are being removed.

New Business

Cathy will develop a proposed species list for the 2011 Adopt-a-Tree program. She will present it at the next meeting.

Discussion was held with respect to how to offset the loss of trees. Trees are being removed at a far greater rate than they are being planted.

Bruce indicated that once the EAB Management Plan has been approved the mayor wants to meet with the tree removal contractors to review the process,etc.

Next Meeting – September 8, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Kidwell  
Secretary