

City of Kent, Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes

August 21, 2017

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Members Present:

Audrey Kessler, Chairman
John BelFiore
Nadine Gomez
Andrew Scholl

Staff Present:

Brad McKay, Facilities
Rebecca Swauger, Account Clerk

Absent:

Zoltan Karaszi

I. Call to Order

Meeting Called to Order by Chair Kessler at 5:00PM

II. Roll Call

Audrey Kessler, John BelFiore, Nadine Gomez and Andrew Scholl were present.
Mr. Zoltan was absent. Staff members, Brad McKay and Rebecca Swauger were also present.

III. Approval of Minutes

To be done at the next meeting.

IV. Staff Report

Mr. McKay stated that he had no official reports and asked if anyone had questions. He did state that there is a new tree maintenance route in place to keep areas trimmed and cleared. Mr. McKay also mentioned that some of the Hawthorne trees are diseased, the trees appear to have rust on them.

Ms. Gomez asked if the downtown trees were stressed due to the heat and/or events.

Mr. McKay advised that there are no trees appearing to be overly stressed, that shedding leaves is normal and happens to many varieties.

V. Old Business

None at this time.

VI. New Business

Mr. McKay handed out the City of Kent Urban Forest Management Plan and asked the Committee to skim through it and discuss at the next meeting. Mr. McKay will also be updating the city approved tree list and plan. Improvements will be made to tree areas located at the intersection of Crain Avenue & Lake Street, as well as the medians along East Main Street. Prior to the next meeting, Mr. McKay will be working on the site list and what he intends to plant and/or replace at those sites. He also spoke of segments which are trees planted 5 to 9 in a row, he would like to do this in areas where possible as it has a neater, cleaner appearance.

Ms. Gomez brought a newspaper clipping regarding a Tree App from the KSU map library and Davey Tree.

Mr. Scholl said that he will get some more information on this.

Mr. McKay said that would be great, perhaps we could get involved with the downtown area. Also, possibly set up software for residents to view.

Ms. Gomez suggested doing something to encourage people to see what the age of their trees are, as it is very exciting and a great way to teach people about them.

The members scheduled the next meeting for October 16, 2017 at 5:00PM.

Adjournment

Hearing no further business before the commission, Ms. Kessler adjourned the meeting at 5:45PM.