

City of Kent, Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes
December 4, 2017
Page 1 of 2

Members Present:

Audrey Kessler, Chairman
John Belfiore
Nadine Gomez
Andrew Scholl

Staff Present:

Brad McKay, Facilities Manager/Arborist
Rebecca Swauger, Account Clerk

Absent:

Karasz Zoltan

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.
Staff members Brad McKay and Rebecca Swauger were also present.

III. Approval of Minutes

The October 16, 2017 minutes were approved unanimously.

IV. Staff Report

Mr. McKay stated that Central Maintenance has authorized updates to the Tree Inventory software in 2018. City wide we are behind on tree maintenance, Davey is going currently going through the third route. We have half of the city trimmed, should be able to do the same next year. Plans for 2018 involve working on downtown areas, with plans to look at a couple species of smaller to medium trees.

V. Old Business

Mr. McKay is reviewing 2017, says it has been very hectic and he is hoping for a smoother 2018.

VII. New Business

Silver Meadows is getting a new water line, which may result in a whole new line of trees. Ms. Gomez inquired about an ordinance to protect certain types of trees. Andrew Scholl believes there is one in place. Ms. Gomez thinks it is specific to Oak and Maple. Mr. McKay said that Kent is already pretty well developed, however, he has met with the Kent Environmental Council, they have multiple interests, therefore, they may be interested in helping us with the ordinances.

Mr. McKay stated that we do, again, qualify for the Tree City Award. He also discussed possibly doing additional plantings at the RB&W site. And perhaps in the future hosting

of The Tree City Awards with Kent State.

Ms. Gomez talked about Memorial Trees where residents could purchase a tree in honor and/or memory of another. Mr. Scholl thought this idea was ready to go at one point. Ms. Kessler thought there may have been an issue with a Memorial Tree book.

Mr. Scholl requested meeting change from Monday to Tuesday for this semester.

The Commission members confirmed the next meeting will be Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 5:00pm.

Adjournment:

Hearing no further business, Ms. Kessler adjourned the meeting at 6:02pm.