

City of Kent, Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes
October 29, 2018
Page 1 of 2

Members Present:

Audrey Kessler
John Belfiore
Andrew Roland
Peter Kierstead

Staff Present:

Brad McKay, Facilities Mgr. /Arborist
Rebecca Swauger, Account Clerk

Absent:

Andrew Scholl

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 5:05 by Audrey Kessler

II. Roll Call

Audrey Kessler, John Belfiore, Andrew Roland were present. Peter Kierstead arrived at 5:08. Staff members Brad McKay and Rebecca Swauger were also present.

III. Approval of Minutes

Audrey Kessler made a motion to approve the previous minutes, second motion made by Andrew Roland.

IV. Staff Report

Mr. McKay stated that tree trimming has come to a halt due to citywide brush cleanup. Davey tree is doing some end of year removals.

V. Old Business

Mr. McKay said that they have given the go ahead to have approximately 600 trees planted in the Area on Ivan Drive. This planting will create a buffer between the residential and commercial Areas.

VII. New Business

Mr. McKay talked about fall tree planting, as fall extends until December. We are guaranteed \$10,000 for tree planting this year. Mr. McKay also stated that trees all along Crain Avenue need replaced.

Mr. Kierstead asked if any of the replacements would be Maple Trees.

Mr. McKay responded if any, maybe sugar maples would be used. Maple trees are overplanted in the city.

Dansel Street will be getting new plantings in 2019 because the sidewalks are being replaced in That area.

Mr. Roland asked how the areas to plant are selected.

Mr. McKay explained that the areas that need new plantings generally have damage that is caused by sidewalk deterioration and utilities.

Mr. McKay said that in the downtown area, all of the trees are approximately 8 years old.

Mr. Roland asked how to evaluate the value of the trees.

Mr. McKay says that trees become more valuable as they get bigger, because, they soak up large amounts of water before it gets to the sewer system and the shade from them lowers the surface temperature and makes asphalt last longer.

The members agreed to have the next meeting on December 3rd at 5:00pm.

VII. Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Ms. Kessler made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:17pm, the motion was seconded by Mr. Kierstead.