

City of Kent, Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes
August 1, 2022
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Members Present:

Audrey Kessler
Jim Jenkins
John Belfiore
Rebekkah Berryhill

Staff Present:

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

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm by Audrey Kessler

II. Roll Call

Audrey Kessler, Jim Jenkins, Rebekkah Berryhill and John Belfiore were present. Jason Knowles was absent. Also, staff members Brad McKay and Rebecca Swauger were present.

III. Approval of Minutes

Audrey Kessler made a motion to approve previous minutes, second motion made by Jim Jenkins.

IV. Staff Report

Mr. McKay spoke of the trees that could not be given away at the Farmers Market, there were ten, The Maple trees were put in the ground in front of Whitehall and the Buckeye trees went in front of Plum Creek Park. As of now, we do not have a planting plan, we are behind on both trimming and Grinding. Mr. McKay also discussed the possibility of planting in some of our residential areas on our Own, approximately 20 trees at a time.

Mr. McKay also said that we are currently doing some new training in the bucket truck and working to Get Jessie Avenue, Bryce Way, Riverbend and Forest Lakes cleaned up. Also, there is a tree on North Water in a bump out that is not doing well.

V. Old Business

The group discussed possibly doing a fall tree give away at the KSU Farmers Market in October.

VI. New Business

Mr. Jenkins asked how many trees we would be planting this year. Mr. McKay said approximately 40. We have \$10,000 set aside and we are looking at purchasing from Klyn Nursery. Also, with the Harris Street project, we will be able to purchase some trees out of the Engineering project budget, Which would bring us to about 85 new trees total.

Possibly join forces with The City of Kent & KSU to host the 2025 Tree City Awards. Hopefully we will Know by winter, as we need a full 2 years to plan. As soon as we know, we need to start a list of Sponsors. Also, perhaps we could work with Parta to do a bus tour. The group agreed that the

next meeting will be on Monday, October 3, 2022 @ 5:00pm.

VI. Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Ms. Kessler made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 pm.