

City of Kent, Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes
October 3, 2022
Page 1 of 2

Members Present:

Audrey Kessler
Jim Jenkins
John Belfiore
Rebekkah Berryhill
Jason Knowles

Staff Present:

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

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:01 pm by Audrey Kessler

II. Roll Call

All members present, as well as staff.

III. Approval of Minutes

Audrey Kessler made a motion to approve previous minutes, second motion made by Rebekkah Berryhill.

IV. Staff Report

Mr. McKay presented a spread sheet that had vacant sites for tree planting, 21 of these sites were A result of trees being removed last year. Some of the sites currently have tree designations. New Trees will be purchased from Davis Tree Farm; the cost of their trees is lower than others. The city is Also using Bower's Lawncare to plant the trees due to lower cost, they will also be removing the steel Tree grates and installing pavers. New plantings will be done on Main between Water and Depeyster, species have not yet been decided. The area South of 261 on 43 is currently under Review for updates. The city is working with Davey on this project.

Mr. McKay informed the group that intends on keeping crews out throughout fall for pruning work. The next target area is University Heights, as the trees there have not been touched.

V. Old Business

Mr. McKay said that one of the newly planted Gingko trees on North Water has died. He also spoke Of the previously talked about Tree Giveaway and stated that we should regroup and try again in The spring.

VI. New Business

The group discussed future Shade Tree meetings and agreed that the current schedule works for Everyone, so meetings will remain the first Monday of the even months for 2023.

The group also discussed a possible Volunteer Day in order to get trees planted, which led to Discussion regarding an Arborist Program at the school. If these options are available, Mr. Knowles suggested using the kids to help get caught up on trimming. We could create a "Kid Program" that would allow them to work on smaller trees, up to 3 years old. They could Also pile up debris and City Crews could pick up at a later time. This group would be best suited for May or October. Mr. McKay will investigate.

The group agreed to meet one more time before the end of the year, therefor, the next Meeting will be held on Monday, December 5, 2022 @ 5:00pm.

VI. Adjournment

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

