



**Tuesday, November 27, 2018, 4:00 pm
City Greenhouse**

Members Present: Jim Arthur, Cynthia Ball, Breann Hohman, John Parker, Commissioner Dave Waddington

Staff Present: Tom Speir, Melissa Vassallo

Residents Present: Mike Zuilhof

The meeting was called to order at 4:12 pm.

October 30th meeting minutes were approved with no changes needed.

Old Business:

Tom informed Bre of the situation that took place with one of the trees that were recently planted on Adrian Circle. The homeowner requested for it to be removed right after it was planted. He let her know the tree has been removed per her wishes and relocated to the triangle park at Hancock Street, Huron Avenue and Adams Street. Bre was surprised. She went door to door, asking each of the residents if they wanted a tree. This resident said yes at that time but had changed her mind.

Bre let the group know her view on the Corso's plantings. She said they were all worried the plantings wouldn't come out the greatest and that's exactly what happened. She thought the Tree Commission is in place to be an advisory committee. But, what they recommended to do wasn't done. The members agreed in the future, it would make more sense, unless there is a huge cost savings, to contract out removals over plantings.

Tom updated the group about the Bicentennial tree. It is a Norway spruce that was purchased from Barnes. It has been planted by Barnes in East Park where the grasses were.

Jim told Bre that he has a couple of old door hangers that she can look at. Bre said she will consolidate the different hangers to include all the important data and also update the information to make sure everything is correct. It was decided they will use the door hangers for the next group of plants.

New Business:

Mike Zuilhof wanted to bring attention to the broken sidewalks on W. Market Street due to the trees that are there. He said they are near Port Sandusky and the Ashley Group, he believes they are Linden trees. Tom said that it seems all those Linden trees have outgrown their spots. Mike advised that the roots are growing into the sidewalks and the trees should be removed to lessen the damage being done. Melissa was asked to add these trees to Tom's inspection list.

Tom notified everyone that a woman named Wendy Allen, who lived in Sandusky for most of her life, has donated \$5,000 to the City to plant trees. She doesn't have any preference where the trees should be planted, just within the City in needed areas. The area being suggested right now is 46th-48th Streets. Bre expressed that there has to be a neighborhood or area that has no trees where this will make a major impact. Tom said \$5,000 should be able to plant around 15 trees. He also told the members, it was decided that these trees will be planted in-house. Bre said we should only outsource if it is higher than the City's capacity. Tom said he would think the City's capacity is about 30 trees.

Tom spoke about the GLRI grant. He told the members he might need assistance with choosing species for all the different spots. He has a meeting regarding the grant/trees in the beginning of December so once he knows more of what he is going to need to do then, he can let them know the details. The members said they are willing to help.

Bre talked about the Tree City USA application. She said she believes the deadline is coming up and asked Melissa to look into it so they don't miss it. She also thinks the City should be able to qualify for the Growth Award, due to all the things the City has done this year. Bre let Melissa know she could contact Alan Siewert, the coordinator, with any questions.

John requested that the type of trees on Water Street, between Columbus Avenue and Jackson Street, be changed. He said they are right at eye level and are always in need of trimming.

John also questioned why the trees on First Street are being removed. Melissa said Bob Waldock was going to be removing trees on his property. John said these are near the water. Bre said those are in the wetlands and you have to have EPA approval for that. Melissa said she would look into it and let Bre know.

Due to the holiday season, there will be no meeting in December. The next Tree Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 29th, 2019 at 4:00 pm at the **City Service Center**.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Cynthia Ball
Chairperson

Melissa Vassallo
Clerk