

Shade Tree Commission
Minutes
March 11, 2021 at 7:00 pm
Via Zoom

Meeting Attendees: David Ingram, Lee Gregg, Nancy Walker, David Sincoff, Roxanne Malé - Brune, Jim Dyer, Ann Bonner, David Riggs.

For item 2. Mark Schieber, Chuck Garvick, Tom Simons, Anne Little, and Jo Berning were in attendance.

1. Title 33: Tree Permit, Right-of-Way Issues, Public Land
 - a. Johnny Appleseed Park – Two crabapples are in serious decline. The Garden Club is requesting permission to remove and replace these trees. There was agreement for removal and replacement but that there should also be a review of the rest of the trees at the park. Ann Bonner agreed to do the review.
 - b. 55 Elmwood – Two pear trees, there is a split in one tree. The owner asked if cabling was appropriate or pruning. We approve the adjacent owner be given permission to prune by a professional tree service. We recommend against cabling.
 - c. 69 Elmwood – Questions about the state of an elm and a maple in the RoW. There are no significant issues with the elm at present, we should revisit this tree later in the year once it has its leaves out to see if there are any dead branches. This is probably one of the original Elmwood elms. The maple tree has a 4” limb which the owner is willing to cut and appears to know how to do it. We give approval for the owner to be given permission to cut the 4” limb from the maple.

2. Title 37: Landscape Ordinance Issues
 - a. Two Title 41 requests for Kershaw Greene and Tyler Park. There was a general discussion with the representatives over many issues. They will resubmit revised plans for our next meeting. It was noted that they can propose planting tree closer than 30’, probably 20’ possibly 15’. They can also propose planting trees in the adjacent RoW to meet the requirements. If we hear from the Planning Commission that we need to have a meeting to approve these plans before they meet, then a special meeting will be called. Otherwise, the Shade Tree Commission will review the revised plans at our next scheduled meeting.
 - b. Discussion on cost of tree banking. Currently, the City does not have a codified price for tree banking under Title 37. It was recommended that until the City has codified a price that any approvals that include tree banking include a requirement that each tree banked will incur a fee of \$225 and that 75% of any tree banking fees be payable before work commences on the site.

3. Maintenance of the tree canopy
 - a. West State St. Park: 20-30 Large Shade Trees (LST) could be place there.
 - b. South side park Carol Rd, 0.4 acres, contiguous with woods: we can add 20-30 trees.
 - c. 1804 Way: can there be additional plantings of large shade trees? Yes.
 - d. How to deal with making newly planted trees deer resistant? Can the City pay for planting of trees at the above three sites including deer resistance?
 - e. Can we have plant sale? We will get all the trees from Menards. We will then sell them to Athens’ residents. This will then give the Shade Tree Commission a budget to maintain trees. This is a question that David Riggs will ask the Law Director.
 - f. Can you send in your tree plantings locations to the chair?
 - g. 17-year Cicadas, brood X are due this year. Columbus and points west are likely to be affected.

4. Minutes of the February 11th, 2021
 - a. Motion to approve the minutes, by Nancy Walker, seconded by Roxanne Malé - Brune. The minutes were approved without objection.

5. Next meeting is April 8th, 2021 at 7:00 PM on Zoom.