

Tree Commission Meeting Notes January 11 2017

Meeting began at 5:30 pm with Meiring going over the agenda for the meeting

In attendance: Meiring, Jane, Joe, Debbie, Dean, Lenny, Miriam, Dominic, Kessa

Meeting was opened with Gloria Grandberry as a guest. TC introduced themselves to her. This was open public commentary. Gloria had comments against the business of one of the members of the tree commission. We listened to her comments and she left the meeting. Her emails are with the City of SE housing dept.

Lenny brought to the attention of the SETC that Helena Glazer wanted to come before the commission to ask for an appeal from the city ordinances that were levied against her involving the planting of fruit trees on the city tree lawn. Photos and the letter from Ms. Glazer were provided to TC.

The TC agreed to hear her speak at the next meeting. The question of where is the tree planting plan was brought up for the streets of SE. Dean provided the list and for this particular location the recommended trees were sterile ginkgo trees.

The BZA (Board of Zoning Appeals) was brought up. See later notes.

A discussion on Memorial Day and Arbor day tree planting began. Debbie was unable to locate the individuals involved in the original planting for Memorial Park. She also raised concerns about the watering as the tree planted last year did not make it. The Elm currently in place at the park is passing due to DED and will need to be removed. There is concern from Dean about the granite markers onsite. We moved on from the Memorial Park discussion as the decision was made to hold Arbor day at Bexley Park. The discussion about the granite markers will take place later. Jane will be contacting Lauren Lanphear, Forest City Tree Service to come to a future meeting to discuss what to plant once the elm is removed. He has been involved with the site for many years.

Arbor Day (April 28) at Bexley Park will have two or more honorees, 1 from the Mayor (TBD) Joe to contact, and the other from Jane (Rocky) The names will appear on the program and Mayor's proclamation. TC will revisit the sign at Bexley Park about names being added to it. The tree will be selected by the city arborist based on a flowering theme at that location. Honor roll will begin for those interested for the future.

The plan for Arbor Day will follow the same template as last year. A suggestion was made to hold Arbor Day at a school. This is being looked at for a possible fall tree planting project involving the TC.

Kessa asked to place a suggestion sound board on the SETCFB site to poll people for a

tree species to plant. TC agreed.

When the question of what the name of the tree was, the comment was made, Hazel, to which the response was “she's nutty” :) Tree humor!

Meiring will be contacting 1SE to follow up on details from the last meeting.

The draft of the TC appeals form was brought into discussion. Suggestion for corrections were made – email address, fix phone number, Completed forms will be going to the city arborist. The Arborist will bring them to the attention of the TC. The actual owner of the property must be verified before this is done.

A motion was put forward to approve the use of the TC appeals form and it was unanimously approved by all present.

The form will be sent to SE law dept for review. This will also pose and hopefully how to deal with fees dealing with the appeals process.

An instruction sheet needs to be created to go with the appeals form so individuals know how to properly proceed. Suggested method: (not approved)

Arborist to hand paper or email form to resident should they wish to appeal the recommended action of the city of SE representative.

The form is to be filled out and turned via email or paper into the arborist or Dept of Housing of SE.

Housing Dept will handle fees if any.

Once a receipt or confirmation is provided by the property owner the appeal must be given to the TC within 10 days of the meeting for review to be heard at the next meeting.

The individual can then attend the TC meeting and present their case. The TC will hear the reasons and come to a decision at the meeting after a short deliberation.

A verdict will then be given to the property owner. A time line of action will need to be decided on.

General updates

Jane brought to attention that a walk through of Oakwood green was done to assess the needed maintenance of the area (trimming, tree assessment etc.) and that funding was being pursued to fulfill this. There is money given monthly by the development.

There are two items also being considered at Bexley Park. One is a possible installation of an orchard. However the Recreational Land Use planning commission is looking to put recreational trees there as well. More info to follow at a later date.

Lenny arranged to have the meeting all booked for the year at City Hall. The remaining dates are as follows:

March 8

May 10

July 12

Sept 13

Nov 8