

Tree Commission meeting notes March 9 2017

Meeting called to order at 5:35pm

In attendance -Meiring, Joe, Lenny, Dean, Debbie, Miriam, Dominic, Kessa

No one was in attendance from the public for the open forum.

The city law director was not in attendance due to city council meetings ongoing over the ruling powers of the tree commission.

Lenny gave update that city council was meeting in regards to who has authority of whom is to hear the appeals process in regards to trees. City council is deciding if it will be tree commission or the BZA for tree variances.

Facebook discussion: what is the purpose of the TCFB and what is to be posted on it vs the city site

What should not be on the fb is anything openly political or personal in nature. This is an offshoot of the city and therefore also represents the city.

The overall decision is that it is to be used as a public education tool for the welfare and care of trees in the urban and forest settings.

It can also be used to post meeting dates but not notes and agendas

Public gathering times and events such as Arbor Day, Rock the Block etc are also acceptable.

Anything guiding people to donate is to be avoided unless it is for SE tree commission.

Police and Fire Dept. use FB, see how they use it as well as other tree commission from other cities.

Utility Fund discussion

Meiring placed application for SE One to make an account for the tree commission so we can accept money for the purchase of trees and related services. This currently is for 2017 only. However, its being looked into to extend beyond this timeline. Money will be coming from the utility company.

The question is who is going to implement and supervise the funds? How is that decided specifically.

Sewer company money question was brought up in regards to the money from storm water and sewer. We'll need to draft a letter to the service director requesting some be used for the purpose of trees and tree care. Water truck, summer intern etc.

The 3 funds that are possibilities for use by the commission are:

Centennial Fund – South Euclid One

Utility Fund

Sewer District Storm Water Fund

Meiring to send Jane's notes in regards to Centennial email to Michael Love.

Arbor Day discussion -

Dean going next week to select trees for Arbor day and past Arbor day replacement at Klyn.

The tree for this year will be magnolia

Dean to contact Jane in regards to mayoral proclamation and the specific individual for the memorial tree. Also the program to be passed out at the event.

Meiring will be contacting CCSWCD in regards to a student or public education event during the arbor day celebration.

Time for the event will be 1:00 April 28 at Bexley Park

Other topics

The topics of assessments was brought up during the meeting as a possible way to increase TC money. City of Lyndhurst and Shaker use this. Dominic to further investigate.

Next meeting agenda – discussion on plan to direct city to increase the tree canopy.

A letter also needs to be drafted to the city engineer or even a meeting invite to an upcoming TC meeting with the engineer over the lack of insertion of trees in city planning. Apparently trees are not always inserted into the if budget for replacement when road work or similar projects are being done in the city.

The city current planting rate cannot keep up with the tree replacements if trees fail to be added into plans. If a tree is removed during a project it must be replaced.

Bring suggestions to the next meeting for tree replacement for East Antisdale.

Meiring to bring info on tree farming on vacant lots. Lenny to bring possible open lot options for discussion. A possible option is to grow trees for the city using student and available grants, schools and funds to increase our canopy.

May 10 is next meeting

July 12

Sept 13

Nov 8