

**South Euclid Tree Commission
Minutes 11/8/17**

Call to order at 5:30

Attendance: Joe Mehalik, Jane Goodman, Miriam Plax, Dean Grida, Debbie Wright, Dominic Liberatore, Lenny Chormanski, Kessa Turnbull

Public Input: None

Selection of new Chairman: Joe Mehalik was nominated and accepted the position of chairman. Joe will step down as secretary for the committee. The secretarial/minute taker will become a rotating position, for now. Tonight the minutes will be taken by Debbie Wright

Open Position of the Tree Commission: The resignation of Meiring Borchers leaves an open position on the Tree Commission. This opening was discussed and strategies for recruiting a replacement were reviewed.

Action:

- * Miriam will send Kessa information about the position description and application that we filled out for this position. Kessa will post opening on Tree Commission Face Book page.
- * Joe will find out if this can be listed on the South Euclid Website opportunity page.
- * Jane will check on how Meiring was selected, which category he was in

Questions posted on Face Book Page: There is not formal process for address questions posted on our face book page. The most recent question was not address for one week. This is too long.

Action: Debbie will address questions in a more timely manor. Dominic will be backup. If anyone else notices a question Please contact Debbie in case she missed it.

Brochure Review “South Euclid Trees: Questions & Answers”: continued business from last meeting. Jane Goodman reformatted and undated the brochure as a trifold mailer.

Action: reviewed and edited by Kessa at the meeting. Jane will make corrections and present at our next meeting for final approval. We will continue to look for a watering only handout for the spring

Publicity/informational content about Trees and Tree Commission: New business

We are interested in getting something in the spring edition of the South Euclid Magazine. This could be information about Arbor Day, or tree care, tree factoids, tree do's and don'ts

Action: Send ideas to Jane and she will submit something to the magazine.

Arbor Day: 4/27/18 the date is established But we did not discuss and specific details

Action: Make more specific plans at next meeting.

Meeting dates 2018: we reviewed dates but we did not specify time. Currently we have been meeting on the second Wednesday at 5:30 every other month with the exception of Arbor day. I am assuming that the time is the same, 5:30pm in the Jury Room in the South Euclid Municipal Building

Action: 1/10/18, 3/14/18, 4/27/18 Arbor Day at 12 noon (?), 5/9/2018, 7/11/18, 9/12/18, 11/14/18
Lenny will reserve the room

Grievance Hearings: There has been an on going discussion of having The Tree Commission reviewing citizen's appeal regarding decisions about trees. For this to happen there does need to be an

ordinance change to spell out the process whether it be BZA, The Tree Commission, or a new Environmental Review Board.

Action: Jane and appropriate City Council members are working on this, Jane will keep us informed. In the meantime the current outstanding case is being handled by Housing and city council. The party involved will be reminded by Housing that they need to make an appeal to the council soon or their trees will be removed.

Tree Funds: The various funds were discussed.

One South Euclid tree fund: What is Happening with this? Is this the same as the “centennial tree” money”: Jane will ask

South Euclid Tree Fund: Jane will check on this

Sewer district money will be spent on a street cleaner So what about next year? Was the street cleaner actually bought?

Are there other utility funds??

Action: Jane will be checking into the various money sources related to trees. At the next meeting it would be helpful to have a list of possible sources of funds that can be tracked, if possible and contact information so these funds can be traced (if any of this exists).

City Trees: There was a discussion of free/ left over trees that the city got. The details of this and how it impacted the budget and the Tree City Application were confusing to this note taker

Action: Dean could send a digital copy of the tree city application and the tree care budget proposal that is used for the city to the Tree Commission so the commission and get a better idea of what the city is doing regarding the trees. Data that Tree Commission needs to our job will need to be discussed at the next meeting.

Financial Report: Jane talked a little bit about the financial reports that are needed to work on the city budget and the budget process.

Action: as noted above it in order for the Tree Commission to function more effectively we do need to be more aware of the finances as it relates to trees. We will discuss what we need and what we can have access to at the next meeting

Strategic Planning: What does the Tree Commission plan to do in 2018 besides Arbor Day Celebration? There are activities and responsibilities outlined in the statutes. It sounds like we will not be a review Board for concerns and appeals about trees.

Action: Think about what we can accomplish as a Commission besides meeting 6 times a year so we can be a Tree city. Send your ideas to Joe, Miriam and Debbie We will discuss this at our next meeting

Tree City: Dean will submit this years application

Tree City Growth Award: Jane want to apply for this, Dean will give her the information she needs

Meeting adjourned at 6:45

Submitted by

Debbie Wright