

South Euclid Tree Commission
Meeting minutes May 8, 2018

Present: Joseph Mehalik, chairman; Debbie Wright, Miriam Plax, Dean Grida, Kessa Turnbull, Tammy Lease-Novak, Jane Goodman, Lenny Chormanski

Absent: Dominic Liberatore

Start time: 5:31 pm

1. No public present

2. Arbor Day recap: April 27, 2018 at SE City Hall. Three Dogwood trees were planted. One police dog with handler and the family of Pam O'Toole were in attendance (there was a regional police dog training that conflicted with the date that hampered more police attendance). There were about 45 people in attendance, many from City Hall.

Here are a number of recommendations for the next public event sponsored by the Tree commission:

- No off agenda items/impromptu demonstrations the day of the event (unless requested by the Mayor)
- Tree Commission must discuss all business as an entirety before any decisions are made as to programming at public event
- Thoughts for next year: maybe we should partner with another organization such as UCC on Bluestone or the United Methodist church on Green to promote attendance.

3. It was discussed that we should investigate planning replacement trees at the Veteran's war memorial (Ash trees) during the commemoration on November 11th weekend. Jane will ask Loren Landfair about the trees (donation) and Miriam will ask if Marty Gelfand knows if there are any veteran's groups in SE. (Maybe some will march in the Memorial Day parade??) Joe and Debbie offered to facilitate the event if it is on a Sunday because Dean will be off that day.

4, There was a discussion of a US Forestry service grant with a very short deadline that we could have used to replace 100 Ash trees on Greenwald, Bexley and Victory. However, a 48 hour turnaround would be impossible.

5. There was a spirited discussion on the appropriate role for landscape professional who are on the Tree Commission who are representing the Commission at public

events. There was a concern raised that professional be prohibited from promoting their professional services in any way while representing the Commission. This could include, but not be limited to: distributing literature with business information on it; demonstrations of planting or vaccination of trees; speaking as the sole representative of the Tree Commission; etc. There was a recommendation that a paragraph addressing this issue be drafted for the commission to consider. Kessa offered to try and draft it.

6. The issue of the Appeals process was addressed again. Lenny will ask the Housing department about the collection of the application fee (\$25). All we are asking them to do is collect the fee and pass along the appeals form.

7. Rock the Block will be held June 23rd from 12 to 10 p.m. Our table will only be open until dusk. Jane offered another Yellow Buckeye tree to raffle off. Joe will fill out the paperwork for the table reservation. If you volunteered to work a shift that day, please email Miriam who will keep the schedule because our next meeting is post-event. plaxim@sbcglobal.net set up at 11 (Jane has a tent?) 12-2pm 2-4pm 4-6pm We will need our tree brochures to distribute.

8. Lenny reported that a contractor cut down a city tree during construction of a parking lot on Grosvenor. A police report was made. An assessment of \$1800 for the tree + a fine (suspended?) + replanting fee was levied. It was questioned why the fine and replanting fee were not collected. The money from the contractor will go into the Tree Fund.

9. Tree Fund has \$8000 plus the \$1800 from Grosvenor tree plus money to be collected from the latest Dominion project.

10. Sewer District Community Cost Share fund: questions about what these funds can be used for? What year are the funds collected 2018 or 2019? Can they be used for the urban forest, storm water or Ash trees?

Next Meeting July 11, 2018 at 5:30 in Jury Room

Meeting adjourned 7:15 pm

Submitted by:

Miriam Plax