

Lancaster City Shade Tree Commission
MINUTES - January 17, 2017
City Hall, Commission Room - 120 N. Duke St.

Present: Jim Bower, Christina Leslie, Shirly O'Leary, Carl Pike, Mimi Shapiro, Robert Shenk, Douglas Smith

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM.

The minutes of the December 20, 2016 meeting were approved.

Carl Pike was elected Chairperson for 2017.

Old Business:

New Business:

Discussion Items:

1. Arborist's Report

- The owners of 414 E. King St. have not yet submitted a plan for planting 3 trees.
- Various narrow-crown trees were suggested for 119 E. King St. (Lancaster Chamber building).
- There have been problems with structural soil on Armstrong Blvd. and elsewhere. This material should not be placed in the tree pits or planting strip, but only under the adjacent sidewalk.
- Arbor Day is Friday, April 28. The ceremony and tree planting will be held at Hand Middle School.

2. Sustainability Planner's Report

- The city received a DCNR Tree Vitalize grant of \$15,000, for 100 trees. The city will fund the remainder of the cost of each tree.
- Ash street tree replacements will begin this spring. About 35 such trees are included in the Tree Vitalize grant.
- Ms. Katzenmoyer will be consulted concerning the commission's jurisdiction over trees that are partially in the public right of way.
- Lancaster Tree Tenders will conduct a crowdfunding campaign in the spring. Implementation details are being worked out, and sponsors are being sought. Identification of potential tree planting sites and outreach to property owners are ongoing.
- There will be a workshop for contractors, landscape architects, and city staff about Cornell structural soil; members are encouraged to attend – March 21, 9:00 – 10:30 AM in City Council chamber.
- The contract for trees for the Tree Planting Program is up for renewal. Staff and members will review the existing list for additions and deletions in preparation for the bidding process.

3. Comments from Commission Members

- Members were pleased that in 2017 the residential leaf pickup period will be extended by one week.

4. Other discussion topics

- The status of the Hartman Fund was discussed. Members and staff should submit suggestions for 2017 projects at the next meeting, at which time the desired year-end balance and the total spending will be decided.

- Analysis of sidewalk/tree issues is continuing. A review of the pros and cons of root barriers will be conducted. Other alternatives to “direct” the roots should be studied. The sidewalk heaving at Case Commons (E. Vine and Church Sts.) needs to be addressed; members should view the site.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Next meeting February 21, 2017, 7:30 PM