

City of Kent, Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes
July 15, 2019
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Members Present:

Audrey Kessler
Andrew Scholl
Peter Hans Kierstead

Staff Present:

Brad McKay, Facilities Mgr. /Arborist
Rebecca Swauger, Account Clerk

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:03 by Audrey Kessler

II. Roll Call

Audrey Kessler, Andrew Scholl, Peter Hans Kierstead were present. Also, staff members Brad McKay and Rebecca Swauger. John Belfiore was absent.

III. Approval of Minutes

Audrey Kessler made a motion to approve previous minutes, second motion made by Andrew Scholl.

IV. Staff Report

Mr. McKay stated that there was a list that was submitted to Davey Tree earlier in the day, the list had approximately 40 trees on it to be removed in 2019. He also said that if anyone saw trees in the downtown area with white X's on them, those are trees being removed. Downtown trees are the only trees being replanted this year.

Mr. Kierstead asked what the main reason for doing removals is.

Mr. McKay said that the trees are typically injured or dead, or have been subject to anything that has caused harm to their root mass.

Mr. McKay reported that he would like to "gently" move down North Mantua & Crain Avenue to remove and replant the trees. He also said that trees add 10 to 20% value for curb appeal and also makes asphalt last longer.

Update on trees planted last year: They are looking good and healthy.

Mr. McKay said there is gas line work being performed in the area of Rellim, Bowman, Berkeley and Avondale. He will be doing a walk-through of the area once work is complete to see the impact on the trees.

V. Old Business

Mr. McKay updated on the retention area on West Main Street, said there will be a pesticide application toward the end of August or early September and he will be going over plans with Davey to check species availability.

VI. New Business

Mr. McKay said that tree pruning and clearance is going on now. He also is in talks with Davey Tree to see if they would be able to do a section of pruning for us.

Update on yard waste transfer site: It is currently closed not only is the site reaching capacity, the site was also subjected to contractor abuse.

The members agreed to hold the next meeting on September 23, 2019 at 5:00pm.

VII. Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Mr. Kierstead made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:00pm, the motion was seconded by Audrey Kessler.