

**City of Kent, Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**February 4, 2019**  
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**Members Present:**

Audrey Kessler  
John Belfiore  
Andrew Scholl

**Staff Present:**

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

**Absent:**

Peter Kierstead  
Andrew Roland

**I. Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 5:15 by Audrey Kessler

**II. Roll Call**

Audrey Kessler, John Belfiore and Andrew Scholl. Staff members Brad McKay and Rebecca Swauger Were also present.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

Andrew Scholl made a motion to approve previous minutes, second motion made by John Belfiore.

**IV. Staff Report**

Mr. McKay stated that with it being winter, Central Maintenance has not been in full tree mode. Only some trimming is being performed at this time.

**V. Old Business**

Mr. McKay said that at the end of 2018 there was money available for the tree software, this should be complete in 2019. There was a tree that fell down behind the Fifth Third Bank that landed on some of the new plantings. Mr. McKay discussed upcoming tree removals as well as planting on Beryl, Ivan and Chadwick.

**VII. New Business**

The focus for spring will be downtown, trees that are dead or not looking great will be removed. A different species will also be selected for downtown as well as elevated beds at Water and Main.

Mr. Scholl asked if there would be beds in the North Water Street renovation.

Mr. McKay responded yes, he said this renovation will help to push the downtown feel to the North Water Street area.

Mr. McKay said that discussed areas that he thought needed attention, Mantua to Riverbend and Crain to University. He said more landscaping with smaller space trees, these roadside trees cool asphalt and slow people down.

Mr. Scholl asked if all the Ash trees have been removed.

Mr. McKay says there are still 20-30 out there, we are removing most of them ourselves.

Mr. McKay also spoke of redoing the island at Crain, Lake & Water, as well as replanting and reworking the area on South Water near Bob Evans.

Mr. McKay spoke briefly about The Tree City Awards, and whether anyone was interested in attending.

## **VII. Adjournment**

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