



ALTOONA SHADE TREE COMMISSION
Minutes of May 17, 2017

In attendance: Ted Newkirk, *Chairman*; Nancy Fellabaum, Chris Harpster- *Shade Tree Commission*; Lee Slusser-*Director*, Marilyn Morgan, *staff*

Ted Newkirk, Chairperson, called the meeting to order.

Chris Harpster was welcomed as the new Shade Tree Commission member.

- 1 The November 16, 2016 minutes were reviewed and approved, motion by Nancy, seconded by Ted.
- 2 Public Comment – There were no public comments at the meeting.
- 3 Treasurer’s Report - The Financial Statement of February 2017 was reviewed and Lee Slusser said that no expenses have yet come out of that budget.
- 4 Roles of the Shade Tree Commission – The Commission needs a long-range plan for the “urban forest”, Lee stated, and the City Manager has always advocated having an arborist. The Commission members agreed upon the need. The dropped Spring 2017 Project coincided with this change. There was some disappointment over the loss of trimming projects.

The Commission will have an advisory role, plan with the arborist, and eventually rewrite the STC manual with largely the same goals. The STC will continue to review and approve projects in the right-of-way and trimming/removals in protected corridors. The STC will not budget or spend STC funds without the arborist.

The amended tree ordinance 5699, March 8, 2017 deals with potentially hazardous trees and immediate tree hazards on private property. Lee spoke of potential liability issues for the City, citing an accident with a tree on private property at a street tree location.

5 Tree requests –

304 Logan Blvd (protected corridor) – The STC agreed the owner can remove the tree thought to be problematic and replace it with an appropriate tree.

414 N Logan Blvd – The STC agreed to allow removal and replacement of one tree in a commercial area.

208 S 8th Street (protected corridor) – The STC agreed the owner can remove the tree which has been slated for trimming. The tree is entangled in the power lines and branches have been falling on the roof

The Commission went over the project on 17th Street, the trees that will be removed and the dedicated monuments. Lee said that these will all be reused and it is the City’s land.

Lee stated that he will provide his tree tables for the arborists’ view.

Ted Newkirk, Chairman
Paula Over, Treasurer
Nancy Fellabaum
Jeff Arpino
Chris Harpster



Other Business: There was no other business.

The meeting adjourned with a motion of Ted, seconded by Nancy, all in favor.

Shade Tree Commission

Notes by mm