

**TREE COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Video Meeting via Zoom Technology
January 12, 2021**

Members Present via Zoom: Chairperson Sattler, Dios, Jesionowski, Ludwig, Patzwahl, City Representative Polinski, Council Representative Kelly.

Others Present via Zoom: Lydia DeGeorge (Councilperson) Sara Byrnes-Maier (Councilperson), Patrick McGannon (Green Team), John Noell, Mayor Koomar

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Mr. Sattler opened the meeting and asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from January 12, 2021. Ms. Jesionowski made a motion to accept the minutes as written and it was seconded by Mr. Polinski. The minutes were approved by all present.

ARBORIST REPORT

Mr. Polinski had nothing to report at this time

COUNCIL REPORT

Mr. Kelly reported that there were no new items to discuss and that the ordinance is drawing attention. He reported that council is reviewing the ordinance and the Law Director had some questions regarding language, permits and replacement schedules.

He appreciated the time Planning and Zoning spent on reviewing the ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS

Website

Mr. Sattler had some discussion with the Service Director regarding phase one of the website. He said attending the Green Team meeting last night helped with the kind of questions they asked. He said the first phase could be based on frequently asked questions such as, if you have questions on trees, who do you call and delineating on what is private and what is public. What is oak wilt or what is emerald ash borer. What kind of tree can I plant, Another resource which could be used for information would be the ISA website "Trees are Good", which has a lot of one page printouts for questions. Ms. Jesionowski has volunteered to work on the information for the website. We need to

make sure it looks good, make sure links are not broken, and getting the right information out at the right time. Mr. Sattler would like to have an outline by the end of the month. We can divide the work into sections among the commission members.

Mr. Polinski said that there are a lot of good resources that can be referenced so that we are not reinventing what is already out there. Other city websites also have a lot of information. Mr. Sattler also would include bullet points on the importance and value of trees.

Ms. Jesionowski asked what is the preferred work process – do we have a place to have a working document or a place to keep information. Mr. Ludwig said a lot of the work will need to be off-line or through e-mailing (all). Mr. Sattler said we could also use google.dot. He will be sending an e-mail to everyone.

ORDINANCE

Mr. Dios had a meeting with the Strongsville city arborist. He had asked her about permits and how that was handled in Strongsville. The only fee charged was \$500.00 if the person/contractor was not licensed to work in the city. They did not have a “mitigation bank” but they did have a “greenspace fee”. For example, there is a fee of \$250.00 for the first 2,000 square feet of greenspace being developed, and the fee goes up with additional green space development. Educational and outreach was an important part of what they do. She said that as part of the tree conservation program she wished they could go back in time and have a true “tree mitigation bank”.

Mr. Polinski noted that on the ordinance chart breakdown for Strongsville (Ord.10-24.04, .05 .06, .07and .09 and 10-25), they did charge \$100.00 for permits for residential property and asked if she brought that up and wondered what it pertained to. Mr. Dios said she did not bring that up.

Mr. Sattler said that a lot of cities are in the same place as Bay Village when it comes to situations occurring regarding tree preservation. We want what is best for the City and its people, not cumbersome or restrictive. We all understand the importance of trees.

Mr. Patzwahl said we should not just limit ourselves to Ohio. Many other cities out of state, such as Atlanta, which has the largest urban forest in the city and surrounding communities, or Austin, have already addressed some of the issues that we are trying to address and we should look for legal precedents set by these and other cities.

MISCELLANEOUS

In attendance tonight was Sarah Burns-Maier and Lydia DeGorge – Mr. Sattler said he thought they did a great job on working through the aspects of the ordinance.

Patrick McGannon from the Green Team thanked Mr. Sattler for coming to the Green Team meeting and said they learned a lot. He said that volunteers will gladly assist in planting any trees or with anything else the City needs. Mr. Sattler thanked him for their support.

There being no other business to discuss, Mr. Ludwig made a motion to adjourn the meeting, it was seconded by Mr. Polinski, and agreed by all.

The next Tree Commission meeting will be on Tuesday, February 9, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Moore

Jackie Moore, Secretary