

TREE COMMISSION

April 18, 2011

The April 18, 2011 Tree Commission meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. in Council Chambers by Sara Lou Brown, Chairman. Tree Commission members present were Sara Lou Brown, Jim Geary, Judi Lambrite, and Don Spiegel. John Walker was absent.

Others present included: Scott Washburn, Mayor; Randy Moore, Parks Manager; Chanda Neely, Daily Chief Union; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The minutes of the March 21, 2011 Tree Commission meeting, having been mailed to each Tree Commission member, were approved as received.

Mr. Spiegel reported that he and Park Department employees Darlene Levering, John Amesquita, and John Pool attended the Tree City USA Awards Program held on Wednesday, April 13, 2011 in Bowling Green, Ohio. Mr. Spiegel noted that the program was very informative.

Tree Commission members again discussed a request received from Ms. Jennifer Richmond to consider the dog park located in Water Works Park for the placement of trees. Tree Commission members requested Mr. Moore contact Ms. Richmond and let her know the Tree Commission resources are limited, however they are welcomed to plant trees in the area. Mr. Geary suggested that prior to planting, approval of the tree species and number of trees be planted be required.

It was noted that the City's annual Arbor Day celebration will be held on Friday, May 6, 2011 in Stepping Stones Park beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Mrs. Brown presented a sample tree ordinance and a sample tree commission ordinance she received from Mrs. Stephanie Miller, Ohio Division of Forestry. It was noted that the City has similar ordinances in place. Tree Commission members decided to review the information provided.

Mr. Moore reported that the work to remove ash trees and grind the stumps, as part of the Western Lake Erie Basin Emerald Ash Borer Grant, has been completed and the bill has been submitted to the City Auditor. A total of fifty-two (52) trees have been delivered from Shady Tree Acres tree farm for replanting under the grant. Mr. Moore indicated that Mr. Spiegel assisted in selecting tree planting sites within the City.

Mr. Moore also reported that American Electric Power (AEP) has stump grinding equipment in town and they will be grinding the tree stumps located with the City right-of-ways only. The City will be responsible for the removal of grindings from the stumps, filling the holes with fill dirt, and grass seeding. All tree stumps located on private property will have to be removed at the expense of the property owner.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned.

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Sara Lou Brown, Chairman