

**BOROUGH OF SEWICKLEY
TREE COMMISSION MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2012**

Chairperson Larry Rice called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members in attendance were Thad Jones, Kathy Brandt, and Erika Zeranski. Also in attendance were Council Representative Bill Cornman, Borough Arborist Jim Edson, and Borough Manager Kevin M. Flannery. Kelsey Rhea was absent due to personal reasons.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Erica Zeranski, seconded by Kathy Brandt, the Tree Commission Minutes of the January 9, 2012 were approved, as presented.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Borough Arborist Jim Edson reviewed the Arborist's Report highlighting nine tree removals and tree pruning in Park Place, 319 Harbaugh Street, Bank Street, and 265 and 308 Thorn Street.

Mr. Edson recommended approval of Tree Removal Permits for 40 Linden Place and 916 Beaver Street. He also presented a spreadsheet regarding the 19 Londonplane Trees on Nevin Avenue and the upcoming replacement of the street curb. Mr. Edson recommended removal of the trees because as he stated last month a structural evaluation was done on the tree at 808 Nevin Avenue which has been removed. The trees have about a 3 to 5 year useful life left. He also advised that about 14 to 15 2 1/2 to 3 inch caliber trees should be replaced. He recommended that no trees be replanted near the intersection for traffic signage and clear site triangle vision. Tree Commission was in agreement with proposal and requested that the Borough Arborist review the replacement in order that they are suitable for the street and size opening.

On motion of Kathy Brandt, seconded by Larry Rice, the Tree Commission voted, 4-0, to accept and approve the Borough Arborist's report.

Mr. Edson advised that he is working on the 2012 Spring Planting List and will present for the March Tree Commission meeting. This will be the letters to be sent out about the planting.

The Tree Commission began to review the job description of the Borough Arborist and requested the Borough Manager to obtain information from Forest Hills, Fox Chapel, Mt. Lebanon and Upper Saint Clair for the meeting in March. The Commission is reviewing the job functions of the arborist as well as the requirements needed for the Tree Commission activities.

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The Tree Commission indicated that it will participate in the 2012 May Mart and the Borough Manager will process the application.

Thad Jones stated that he is working on update and alert regarding emerald ash bore, oak wilt and beech bark issues that are affecting trees in the Sewickley area. An infomercial can be developed for the website and PEG channels.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Kathy Brandt, seconded by Erica Zeranski, the Tree Commission Meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin M. Flannery
Acting Secretary