

BOROUGH OF SEWICKLEY
TREE COMMISSION MINUTES
MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2012

Chairperson Larry Rice called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members in attendance were Kathy Brandt, Thad Jones and Erika Zeranski. Also in attendance were Borough Arborist Jim Edson, and Borough Manager Kevin M. Flannery.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Erika Zeranski, seconded by Larry Rice, the Minutes of the April 9, 2012 Tree Commission Meeting were approved, 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS

The May Mart raffle produced \$125.00 for the Tree Commission. It was a very successful day in providing information in the Tree Commission, tree memorials and available compost material.

NEW BUSINESS

Borough Arborist Jim Edson reviewed the Arborist's Report, highlighting a tree removed at War Memorial Park due to wind damage and the trimming of Horsechestnut trees on Chestnut Street.

Mr. Edson recommended the trimming of the tree at 716 Beaver Street as the branches are touching the house. The Borough Manager will forward a letter to the owners of 825 Maple Lane indicating that the tree should not affect the water lines and the Borough will review annually for any issues related to the newly installed sidewalks.

Mr. Edson recommended that the Borough prepare a Bidder's List for tree work. This would be a prequalified list with companies listed for pruning and removal and companies listed for removals only. Borough Manager and Borough Arborist to complete the list.

On motion of Kathy Brandt, seconded by Larry Rice, the Tree Commission approved the Borough Arborist's Report, 4-0.

Mr. Edson also presented Bid Specifications for the removal of five pin oaks on Peebles Street. This is necessary due to oak wilt root rot and was previously explained to the Tree Commission and Borough Council. Each of the trees probably weigh in excess of 80 tons. The trees do create a liability for the Borough because of the disease. The estimated cost is between \$15,000 to \$20,000 for removal of trees and stumps. The bid will be due by June 28th with review by Tree Commission and approval of Council in July. Mr. Edson suggested that the area can be replanted with red oak trees or tulip trees.

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On motion of Kathy Brandt, seconded by Larry Rice, the Tree Commission voted, 4-0, to recommend to Council the Pebbles Street Oak Removal Project.

Mr. Jones and Mr. Edson reviewed the ash tree issue and the steps being taken to control the damage.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Ericka Zeranski, seconded by Kathy Brandt, the Tree Commission Meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin M. Flannery
Acting Secretary