

BOROUGH OF SEWICKLEY
TREE COMMISSION MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 9, 2012

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Kathy Brandt, seconded by Thad Jones, the Minutes of the March 12, 2012 Tree Commission Meeting were approved, 4-0.

Tabatha of 839 Nevin Avenue was in attendance and inquired about the removal of the London plane trees. Borough Arborist Jim Edson explained that the road engineers and he reviewed the trees. The trees are too big for the soil volume. The road project is to replace the curbs and some sidewalks and the rebuilding of Nevin Avenue. There are many roots that are entangled in the infrastructure that could cause the trees to fall. Bill Cornman stated that he had the same happen to him on Chestnut Street when the road project was completed several years ago. Borough Manager advised that it is the intention of Council to replant trees on Nevin Avenue in the fall. The Borough will ask the Arborist for three recommendations of type of trees and ask the resident which they might prefer. She thanked the Tree Commission for their answers.

OLD BUSINESS

The Tree Commission discussed the booth for the Annual May Mart on Saturday, May 12, 2012. The Commission will provide brochures, sample of memorial plaque and a tree raffle. Price of the tickets will be 1 for \$5.00 and 3 for \$10.00. The schedule for manning the booth from 9 am to 11 am is Kathy Brandt and Larry Rice, from 11am to 1 pm Thad Jones and Kevin Flannery.

NEW BUSINESS

Borough Arborist Jim Edson reviewed the Arborist's Report, highlighting two tree removals and pruning of several trees.

Mr. Edson reviewed resident requests for tree removals at the Antioch Baptist Church, 527 Straight Street and 627 Straight Street. He recommended removals with suggested replanting of trees. In addition, the owner of the tree at 226 Melville Lane has requested pruning instead of removal.

Mr. Edson reviewed request for 337 Frederick Avenue and recommended that the sidewalk be replaced and reshaped in order that the tree could survive.

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Mr. Edson recommended that a bid specification be prepared for consideration at the June Tree Commission meeting on the removal of the pin oaks on Peebles Street near Beaver Street.

Mr. Edson presented the 2012 Spring Planting List that included forty-eight (48) trees to be planted. In addition, the Quaker Valley Rotary would be donating two trees this year. Borough Manager advised that the Quaker Valley Rotary has donated trees previously to the Borough and has provided at least two trees in all 11 municipalities of the school district. The PA One Calls have been completed and planting can begin on April 19. The Tree Commission also reviewed the list of items to make all plantings areas ready.

Mr. Edson stated that he has met with Columbia Gas per the Borough Manager. Columbia Gas is looking to replace gas lines within the sidewalks and work around the trees. Mr. Edson stated he was very encouraged by the meeting with Columbia Gas.

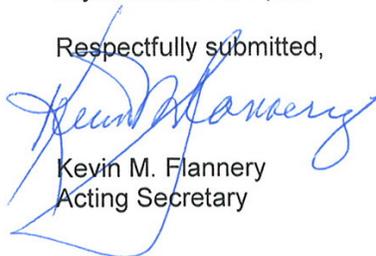
On motion of Kathy Brandt, seconded by Larry Rice, the Borough Arborist Report was accepted by a vote of 4-0.

On motion of Kathy Brandt, seconded by Larry Rice, the Tree Commission meeting for May 14, 2012 is cancelled subject to the call of the chairperson. The vote was 4-0. The Tree Commission will be doing tree planting on April 27 and April 28 as well as the May Mart on May 12.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Kathy Brandt, seconded by Thad Jones, the Tree Commission Meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kevin M. Flannery
Acting Secretary