

# MINUTES OF THE TREE COMMISSION OF THE BOROUGH OF SEWICKLEY

APRIL 13, 2015, AT 7:00 P.M.

The meeting of the Sewickley Borough Tree Commission was held on Monday, April 13, 2015. Chair Kathy Brandt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Sewickley Borough offices, 601 Thorn Street, Sewickley, PA 15143.

Those in attendance were:

Members:

Kathy Brandt

Larry Rice

Michelle Denk

Lori Capone

Others:

Jim Edson, Borough Arborist

Bill Cornman, Borough Council

Cindy Mullins

Brian Jeffe, Mayor

Guests:

Susan Alshire, 851 Nevin

Jeff Zupanc, 904 Centennial

Grace King, 518 Centennial

Mark Jones, 720 Centennial

## I. Approval of minutes

The Minutes of the March 9, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved, with the correction of the time of the May Mart, which is 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

## II. Old business

Recommendation Activity Sheet: Members reviewed the Recommendation Activity Sheet of April 13, 2015. All trees promised to date have been planted. There remain three trees slated to be planted by June 2015.

Jim Edson reported that the winter tree pruning by Tall Timber Tree Experts and winter tree removal by Carl's Tree Service were completed satisfactorily.

## III. New Business

### Arborist's Report

The Borough Arborist, Jim Edson, presented the Arborist's Report, which summarizes the tree work since last meeting and highlights the Spring Planting. The annual Tree Planting Day will be Saturday, April 25, 2015 at 9 AM. Volunteers are welcome. There are 49 trees slated for planting throughout the Borough. An additional ten trees are offered for residents' yards along Ferry Street to complement the street improvement appearance. These would be flowering Cherry, Yohsino Cherry and Kousa Dogwoods.

Grace King petitioned the Tree Commission to remove the flowering Pear tree near her home at 518 Centennial. Jim Edson pointed out the Borough's goal of phasing out flowering pears, as these trees are not conducive to sidewalks and cars.

Susan Alshire, 851 Nevin, requests removal of two pear trees in front of her residence due to the nuisance created by the droppings and requests replacement with a different species.

### Centennial Project

Resident Mark Jones, 720 Centennial, petitioned the Tree Committee to save the large trees on the 700 and 800 Blocks of Centennial Avenue. He stated his belief that the trees are mature (80 to 100 years old) and beneficial to the residents. He asks for the Tree Committee's support for reconsideration to limit the road project work in the 700 and 800 blocks to paving only, and not include curbs and sidewalks, so that the trees could remain. His concern is that the idea of all those trees coming down at the same time will drastically change the character of the street. He would prefer a plan that removes the large trees sporadically to an extended period of time.

Tree Commission pointed out that the residents would be responsible for the sidewalks and curbs, and these will continue to be damaged by the existing large trees. Jim Edson pointed out that the existing trees are too large for the sidewalk.

Resident Jeff Zubanc, 904 Centennial contributed his concern of the uneven sidewalks on Centennial Avenue present a safety hazard to his family and have limited their access to the sidewalk.

On motion of Larry Rice, seconded by Michelle Denk, the Tree Commission approved (4-0) the Arborist's Report as presented.

### May Mart

May Mart is scheduled for May 9, 2015. Michelle Denk and Larry Rice offered to man the table from 9:00 to 11:00. Cindy Mullins and Kathy Brandt committed to the 11:00 to 1:00 PM shift. Lori Capone will fill in as may be needed.

**IV. Next Meeting** – Not scheduled. Due to the activities of Spring Planting on April 25 and May Mart on May 9, the May meeting will not occur unless there is urgent business to be addressed. This

With no other business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Capone  
Secretary