

Lancaster City Shade Tree Commission
 MINUTES - April 18th, 2017
 City Hall, Commission Room - 120 N. Duke St.

Present: Jim Bower, Christina Leslie, Carl Pike, Mimi Shapiro, Robert Shenk, Douglas Smith

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM. A moment of silence in memory of long-time Commission member Lin Hanks was observed.

The minutes of the March 21, 2017 meeting were approved.

New Business:

ITEM	ADDRESS	REQUEST	ACTION
3-17	407 Church St.	Remove 37" DBH oak to comply with sidewalk citation and ADA sidewalk widths.	Approve. Replacement tree cannot be located on this property because of narrow sidewalk. Alternative location and species to be determined by arborist.
4-17	425 College Ave.	Remove 21" DBH Norway Maple – dead branches, hazard to parked vehicles.	Deny. Arborist will discuss sidewalk repairs and reducing sidewalk width with owners of this and adjacent properties. If sidewalk repairs are needed, arborist will inspect roots and determine if the tree can remain.

Discussion Items:

1. Arborist Report

- PPL has removed 17 trees; many were hazards and not all were street trees. Tree pruning seems to be more rigorous than in recent years. Arborist will investigate and report back.

- Arbor Day ceremony will be held at Hand Middle School on April 28; planting begins at 10:30 AM, ceremony at 11 AM.

2. Sustainability Planner's Report

- The Commission agreed to recommend allocating \$4000 from the Hartman Fund to the Lancaster Tree Tenders fundraising campaign for the purchase of street trees.

- The Lancaster Tree Tenders fundraising campaign will run through the end of April. Extensive social media outreach is underway.

- The updated Sidewalk and Curb Ordinance and Specifications are slated for adoption later in April. The Commission recommended that research be conducted on ways to enhance tree growth by integrating best current practices and products for tree planting and for sidewalk design; arborist firms and state urban tree staff will be contacted. Tree ordinances and sidewalk ordinances will then be amended and should include cross-references.

3. Comments from Commission Members

- The 8" caliper white oak in memory of Mr. Nelson Polite Sr. was transplanted to the Rockland St. side of King Elementary School. Discussions are underway concerning the wording and cost of the plaque.

4. Other discussion topics

- An allocation from the Hartman Fund will be requested for a park tree in memory of Lin Hanks. Other funds will be sought for a plaque.

- The process for recommending candidates for the two vacancies on the Commission was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Next meeting May 16th, 2017, 7:30 PM