

Lancaster City Shade Tree Commission
MINUTES – November 21, 2017
City Hall, Commission Room - 120 N. Duke St.

Present: Jim Bower, Kirsten Krimmel, Shirlie O’Leary, Carl Pike, Mimi Shapiro, Robert Shenk, Douglas Smith, Ashley Spotts

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM.

The minutes of the October 17th, 2017 meeting were approved

Old Business - none

New Business:

ITEM	ADDRESS	REQUEST	ACTION
24-17	129 N. Pine St.	Remove 1 little leaf linden. Sidewalk raised.	Denied. Arborist will inspect roots when sidewalk is removed and will determine if root damage during sidewalk repair would necessitate removal. Arborist will discuss with owner replacement small/medium canopy tree. Whether or not tree is removed, tree well to be enlarged.
25-17	222 W. Chestnut St.	Remove 1 Bradford pear.	Denied. Arborist will advise on pruning.

Discussion Items:

1. Arborist’s Report

- The fall planting of about 116 trees is underway.
- A large linden in the 500 block of W. James St. blew down in the recent storm.

2. Sustainability Planner’s Report

- Treevitalize application for planting about 100 trees in 2018 is still pending.
- The NFWF Five Star grant discussions are underway with the School District of Lancaster. Tree plantings and classroom instruction will occur in Spring 2018. Lancaster Tree Tenders are identifying planting sites at various schools.
- A meeting was held with the Hillrise apartments manager to discuss the planting of about 50 trees in the interior areas, in conjunction with Lancaster Tree Tenders, as part of an overall stormwater management project. The planting may occur as an Arbor Day event, with participation by the residents.
- The Stormwater Bureau is contracting with the Vermont Spatial Lab for a new canopy assessment using imagery from 2016 with 6 inch resolution. We should have this data by the year’s end with a new estimate on canopy coverage across the City, as well as analysis of where we lost and gained by neighborhood block.

- On Nov. 9 about 30 Solanco High School students, along with Lancaster Tree Tenders volunteers, planted 15 trees at Lancaster Cemetery and Lancaster General Hospital.
- The workshop and site inspections on trees and sidewalks for Commission members and city staff held on Nov. 9 were very informative. Follow-up discussions will continue so that what was learned can be incorporated into practice.
- On Nov. 11, about XX volunteers planted about 200 trees, removed invasive species, and established a meadow on a riparian buffer at a city property off Riverside Ave. in Lancaster Twp.
- About 12 street trees, including some very large trees, will be removed as part of the N. Charlotte St. reconstruction project. Several are in poor condition. Overall about 50 street trees will be planted.
- At St. John's Church on W. Chestnut St., trenching near a large oak was necessary to repair a sewer line. The oak and the sycamore in the construction area will be monitored for any impact of the work in the root zone.
- 25 of a new type of tree watering bag have been purchased with Hartman Fund money and will be used in upcoming plantings. These bags should not require refilling unless there is a prolonged drought, as they are recharged by rainwater.

3. Comments from Commission Members

- Several magnolias at Magnolia Place (E. Chestnut St. and N. Duke St.) died recently; the cause is unknown. The trees will be replaced.
- Members and staff should submit proposals for expenditures from the Hartman Fund for 2018.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Next meeting, Tuesday, December 19, 7:30 PM