

Avon Lake Citizens Tree Commission
April 12, 2023, 7pm , Old Firehouse

Roll Call:

- **Present**
 - Voting Members: Michael Thain; Terry Robison; Public Works Director Kevin Brubaker; Councilperson Jennifer Fenderbosch, Urban Forester (vacant)
 - Guests: David and Candace Ashton, K.C. Zuber

- **Not Present**
 - Amanda Byrnes
 - Urban Forester (Vacant)

Quorum: Yes

Minutes of Prior Meetings:

- Minutes from March 8, 2023 meeting
 - **Motion:** Accept the minutes from the March meeting. Kevin Brubaker 1st, Terry Robison 2nd. Unanimously approved.

City Council Report:

- **City Council Collective Committee meeting April 17**
 - HR Committee–Terry presented
 - HR Director, Kevin Brubaker, and Jennifer Fenderbosch are working on updating the urban forester job description from the one that the Tree Commission worked with Ohio Urban Forester Stephanie Miller in 2022 (HR Mary made changes in December 2022 to convert it to the Avon Lake format)

- **2 Resolutions recommended to the Public Service committee**
 - Resolution to accept-donation from Petitti Garden Center
 - Resolution to accept donation from Lubrizol

Urban Forester Report:

- N/A

Old Business

- **Arbor Day 2023 (4/28, 9:45 am start time, St. Joseph)**
 - Petitti Garden Center does not have a white pine. Terry to determine best available options.
 - Discussed logistics
 - Service Garage bio bags (500) are ready
 - Garden Club and additional members will be there to help. Possibly Key Club.
 - ID cards ordered, will be in this week
 - 14 5-gallon buckets, and one for St Joe
 - Mayor’s proclamation: Need two
 - Notices to news media via Community Technology Department

- **Review Tree Commissioners Academy – freshmen class**
 - Terry, Mike, Jennifer attended 2 day program (presented by Ohio Div of Forestry)
 - Learned about tree ordinances, urban forestry
 - 2 day Sophomore class scheduled in June

- **Subdivisions Map & Spreadsheet with Tree Listings**
 - Kevin will obtain the spreadsheets from Kelly Marton
 - Long term planning – work with other cities, planning 5-10 years ahead
 - We need to determine what information is available and incorporate it with a citywide tree inventory, to have knowledge of tree species diversity in the city and needs for future planting

- **Ordinances – 1018 – Tree Commission Ordinance**
 - Based on Village of Jericho template and comments from Ohio Urban Forester Stephanie Miller
 - Reviewed changes proposed by delegate of Gary Ebert (Law Director)
 - Tree Commissioners to each receive a notebook with important TC info
 - **Motion:** Accept the proposed changes and recommend them to the Public Service Committee. Mike Thain 1st, Kevin Brubaker 2nd. Unanimously approved.

New Business:

- **Grant Application from Ohio Division of Forestry**
 - Plan to ask for funds for urban forester for 5 years and funds to commission a tree inventory while partnering with Avon and Bay Village to plan future street trees plantings with a grower

Open Discussion:

- **Tree Removal – Woodbridge area**
 - Mr. and Mrs. Ashton brought up concerns about trees being removed from private land.
 - The Tree Commission does not advise on issues with trees on private lands. However, Ms. Fenderbosch provided information about who to contact.

Motion to adjourn – Mike Thain 1st, Terry Robison 2nd, Unanimously approved.

Next meeting May 10, 2023 at the Old Firehouse.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Thain, Secretary