

Minutes of the Avon Lake Citizens Tree Commission
August 9, 2023, 7pm , Old Firehouse

Roll Call:

- **Present:**
 - Voting Members: Amanda Byrnes; Terry Robison; Councilperson Jennifer Fenderbosch
- Not present:
 - Michael Thain; Urban Forester (Vacant)

Quorum: Yes

Minutes of Prior Meetings:

- Minutes from June 15, 2023
 - **Motion:** Accept the minutes from the March meeting. Jennifer Fenderbosch 1st, Amanda Byrnes 2nd. Unanimously approved.

City Council Report: City Council is on recess.

Urban Forester Report: N/A

Old Business

- **Grant Application through Ohio Division of Forestry for funds from US Forest Service's Urban & Community Forestry Inflation Reduction Act Grants**
 - Expected fall release of application information. DNR DOF may contract with Tyler Stephenson, USFS (previously with DOF) to administer program.

New Business:

- **Dedication ceremony for Survivor American Elm Tree**
 - Delay until fall 2024 or spring 2025 to allow growth and to determine final planting spot.
- **Matt Leiden, DOF Urban Forester, brief tour summary**
 - JF and TR toured Avon Lake with Matt on July 28. Covered a portion of area toured previously with Steph Miller
 - Looked at common 'mis'-practices on city and private trees such as volcano mulching, deep planting, improper cabling, raised sidewalks, and hazard trees.
 - Matt suggested several items needing quick action. Also repeated suggestions to follow Toledo blueprint for managing tree/sidewalk issues.
- **5th Grade Field Day for Arbor Day**
 - On July 28, JF and TR met with principals from Troy and St, Joseph, Lorain County Metroparks Outdoor Experiences Manager, and a service forester from Ohio DOF. LCMP has tons of experience with large school groups and the field day will use their staff and specialists including DOF personnel, a private forestry consultant, nursery specialists, and arborists. April 25 has been reserved for the field day with about 320 students plus teachers expected. Looking for sponsors and/or grants to fund t-shirts and snacks.
- **Arbor Day seedling giveaway selection** (no discussion)
- **Set dates for TC Academy homework with Matt Leiden – tree plan**
 - TR will contact Matt to check if November 17 works for his assistance to start limited tree inventory, urban site index, and master planting design.

Motion to adjourn: Amanda Byrnes 1st, Jennifer Fenderbosch 2nd. Unanimously approved.

Next meeting: September 13, 2023, 7:00 pm, Old Firehouse

Future meeting dates:

October 11, 2023

November 8 (skip if we meet with Matt Leiden on November 17)

December 13 (possible lunch, dinner together)

January 10