



**Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, November 20, 2019**  
**04:00 pm**

These minutes are intended to be interactive minutes, referencing video and audio recordings hosted at [www.bexley.org](http://www.bexley.org).

To view and listen to the context behind the decisions taken at this meeting, please visit [www.bexley.org/meetings](http://www.bexley.org/meetings).

**1. Convening the Meeting:**

a. Call to Order/Call the Roll – Susan Quintenz, Chair

1. Establish a quorum –

Ms. Ellen Bowden and Ms. Mollie O'Donnell are appointed alternates.

**Roll Call:**

**Voting Members Present:** Celeste Williams; Sheila Straub; Mollie O'Donnell; Ellen Bowden; Susan Quintenz; and Larry Helman

**Absent:**

**Excused:** Linda Zupnick; Dave Wakeman; and Jim Wilson

**Non-Voting Present:**

**Others Present:** Barb Giller, Kathy Rose, Elena Andrews, Jordan Cavallaro, Mayor Kessler

b. Approval of Minutes of October 16, 2019 - Mrs. Quintenz  
DRAFT 10-16-19

Sheila Straub made a motion to Approve - 'minutes of October 16, 2019 as written.' Motion seconded by Celeste Williams. **Vote 6 - 0 - passed.**

FOR: Celeste Williams, Sheila Straub, Mollie O'Donnell, Ellen Bowden, Susan Quintenz, and Larry Helman.

AGAINST: None.

ABSENT: Linda Zupnick, Dave Wakeman, and Jim Wilson.

c. Announcements/Small Victories/Residents' Comments:

Ms. Celeste Williams likes what the City has done to protect the Boxwood along E Broad. The City built wooden panels around the plants and then covered them with burlap. This is to protect the boxwood during the winter months and from salt damage.

a. Introducing Andy Bashore: Mayor Kessler

Mayor Kessler will introduce Mr. Andy Bashore at the next Tree and Public Garden meeting on December 18, 2019.

b. Other

Trees for Bexley update provided by Ms. Ellen Bowden. Two weeks post mailing out the letters \$11,250.00 has been raised thus far. About 300 letters were mailed.

2. Landscape Applications to be reviewed – Elena Andrews, Staff Consultant

a. Sessions Village: Judith Fisher : request for replacing Broad Street trees with Red maples instead of Chinkapins no app filled out. Should there be?

Ms. Judith Fisher presented the landscape plan before the Tree Commission. Ms. Fisher is head of the landscape committee at Sessions Village. Ms. Fisher is requesting to replace a City Tree on the east side of Sessions Village entrance with Autumn Blaze (Acer x freemanii) Maples instead of Chinkapins. Chinkapins are the street tree for the east side of Sessions Village and London Planes are the street tree for west side of Sessions Village. There is an Oak tree on the east side of the entrance, located on private property, with a 180 ft canopy and because of how large the canopy is, it has affected the growth of the existing Maple tree located on the east side of the Session Village entrance.

Sessions Village has a history of Maple trees growing throughout their community and Ms. Fisher would like to continue to honor that and is proposing to replace the existing Maple tree on the east side entrance with an Autumn Blaze Maple tree. Sessions will take financial responsibility for the proposed Autumn Blaze Maple which includes purchase of the tree, installation of the tree, and making sure the tree is established and well cared for after it is established. The proposed tree Sessions would like to plant will be eight to ten (8-10) years old and five to six (5-6) inches in caliper.

A discussion was held among the Tree Commission regarding their concerns about the size and care of the proposed Autumn Blaze Maple. The Tree Commission reminded Ms. Fischer to mark under ground utilities before installation. The hole for that caliper size tree will be very large. The Tree Commission would like the owner to speak Mr. Grant Archer for final review.

## Sessions

### **Roll Call:**

**Voting Members Present:** Celeste Williams; Sheila Straub; Mollie O'Donnell; Ellen Bowden; Susan Quintenz; Larry Helman; and Linda Zupnick

### **Absent:**

**Excused:** Dave Wakeman; and Jim Wilson

### **Non-Voting Present:**

Larry Helman made a motion to Approve - 'the replacemant of the dead maple to the east of the entry of Sessions Village with an Acer x freemanii 'Autumn Blaze' (Autumn Blaze maple) location in front of 2188 E Broad with the following conditions: Owner to speak with Grant Archer, City Arborist, who will make the final recommendation for the size of the new tree, its location, and the stump removal requirements. Owner is to provide protection during the winter months.' Motion seconded by Sheila Straub. **Vote 7 - 0 - passed.**

FOR: Celeste Williams, Sheila Straub, Mollie O'Donnell, Ellen Bowden, Susan Quintenz, Larry Helman, and Linda Zupnick.

AGAINST: None.

ABSENT: Dave Wakeman, and Jim Wilson.

### b. 353 N Drexel Avenue – Landscaping in ROW – Elena Andrews

Ms. Elena Andrews with Spruce presented the landscape plan before the Tree Commission. Homeowner, Amy Baskes, was present. This home is located on the corner of Maryland Ave and N Drexel. The area long Maryland Ave has six and half (6.5) feet of proposed landscaping in the public right-of-way. The existing plant material along N Drexel has been proposed to be removed. A few examples of plant material that is being proposed for the front are Liriope, Weeping Hemlock, and Hydrangeas. All of the existing mature trees will remain and a protection plan will be in place. The homeowner is currently taking care of the two (2) city trees. The landscape plan is proposing to remove the Junipers along Maryland Ave. Two (2) existing Junipers will remain and will be cleaned up and thinned out. The landscape plan includes proposed up-lighting and an irrigation system. The existing retaining wall is in fair condition and will remain. The proposed plant material should not be affected by the wall.

TPGR 19-7\_353 N Drexel Ave\_Tree Commission Staff Review\_11-8-19

Baskes\_Rendering\_1\_Fri\_Nov\_8\_2019\_15-41-38

Baskes\_Rendering\_2\_Fri\_Nov\_8\_2019\_15-42-14

Baskes TPGC Submission\_11-8-19\_Fri\_Nov\_8\_2019\_15-41-25

Celeste Williams made a motion to Approve - 'the landscape plan for 353 N Drexel is approved as presented with the following condition: Grant Archer, City Arborist, to review location of the dogwoods and advise whether or not the installation will affect City Trees.

' Motion seconded by Mollie O'Donnell. **Vote 7 - 0 - passed.**

FOR: Celeste Williams, Sheila Straub, Mollie O'Donnell, Ellen Bowden, Susan Quintenz, Larry Helman, and Linda Zupnick.

AGAINST: None.

ABSENT: Dave Wakeman, and Jim Wilson.

c. Broad and Westland gateway improvements – Dan Bier, mksk Studios

Mr. Dan Bier presented a review for a proposed landscape design at Broad and Westland. The Tree Commission would like the gateway at Broad and Westland to be similar to the newly approved gateway at Broad and Gould.

There is an existing column located on the South side of Broad. On the North side of Broad there is existing landscape with no hardscape. A proposed simple brick and limestone collar with a small signature wall to be installed on the North side of Broad. The proposed plan for the South side of Broad is to keep the existing column and add a small wing wall. The proposed hardscape will be off-set at Broad and Westland and not symmetrical like the gateway at Broad and Gould. The proposed plant material will match the plant material being installed at Broad and Gould.

A discussion was held among the Tree Commission regarding the elevations of the hardscape materials. The Tree Commission likes that the gateway at Broad and Westland are asymmetrical.

Mr. Dan Bier presented an idea for signage to be located in the median in front of St. Charles. A discussion was held among the Tree Commission regarding ideas for signage and placement. A small committee of Commission members will get together and meet to discuss the idea further and provide updates.

d. Drexel Pocket Park – Elena Andrews, Mayor Kessler

Ms. Elena Andrews presented the design before the Tree Commission. The Tree Commission would like to give a big thanks to Ms. Denise Blank for providing a donation to help with the design of the Drexel Pocket park and plant material. The Drexel pocket park is located next to the Drexel Theater.

The existing plant material is not doing well and the area needs a makeover. The goal for the area is to make it more inviting and enjoyable for people. There is an existing wall up against the outside wall along the Drexel theater that will remain and the landscape design elements will be installed around it. They do not want to cause any damage to the existing marble veneer to remove the wall.

There are three (3) existing Arborvitae that are failing and have been proposed to be removed. An existing row of Barberry will remain. Along the corners of the park Japanese Fall Cypress has been proposed to add another evergreen plant with a

contrast color. Proposed Liriope will be used as infill through the area around the Historical sign.

Along the wall of the Drexel Theater is a proposed water feature. Proposed materials include greenery along the top of the water feature, metal material for the fountain, and the stone which would complement the existing black and white granite. Proposed lighting will be installed with simple string lights across the patio area. The lightening will be attached to posts.

A discussion was held among the Tree Commission regarding the design of the pocket park and how nice and inviting the proposed design is. Concerns regarding the string lights, street noise, and seating areas were addressed. The water feature is to be designed.

Bexley Pocket Park Water Feature 11-15-19

TPGC-19-33 Bexley Pocket Park Tree Commission Staff Review 11-16-19

Larry Helman made a motion to Approve - 'plan for the Drexel Pocket Park located at 2254 E Main as presented.' Motion seconded by Sheila Straub. **Vote 7 - 0 - passed.**

FOR: Celeste Williams, Sheila Straub, Mollie O'Donnell, Ellen Bowden, Susan Quintenz, Larry Helman, and Linda Zupnick.

AGAINST: None.

ABSENT: Dave Wakeman, and Jim Wilson.

e. Monument sign landscaping at Bexley Square - Elena Andrews, Mayor Kessler

Ms. Elena Andrews presented the landscape plan for the Monument sign in front of Bexley Square. The goal is to make the entryway more presentable while working around the existing electrical box, CoGo bike station, and sign. The wall on the East side of the parking was damaged and part of it is missing. Instead of replacing that section of the wall the landscape design proposed adding a row of Arborvitae for screening. The proposed plant material is simple and already seen throughout the area. Boxwoods, Liriope, and Winter creeper are proposed to fill in the main front entryway. The area will have an irrigation plan in place.

A discussion was held among the Tree Commission regarding the plant material and the existing Monument sign and if it could be replaced or not. The Tree Commission would like to see if up-lighting can be installed to highlight the Cherry trees in the center median. Concerns were addressed regarding the height of the plant material and if it will cover any of the business names in the front entry way, the salt and snow during the winter months and how they could impact the proposed plant material.

Bexley Island Monument Sign Landscape Plan 11-4-19

TPGC-19-32 Bexley Square Monument Sign Tree Commission Staff Review 11-15-19

Celeste Williams made a motion to Approve - 'the landscape plan for the Bexley Square entryway with the following conditions: City to confirm snow removal locations and if the proposed boxwood in the islands will be affected. City to confirm salt

application and if the proposed boxwood in the island will be affected. City to inquire if the owner would consider the installation of low voltage lighting on the flowering trees. City to inquire if the owner would consider upgrading or replacing the sign.' Motion seconded by Sheila Straub. **Vote 6 - 0 - passed.**

FOR: Celeste Williams, Sheila Straub, Mollie O'Donnell, Ellen Bowden, Susan Quintenz, and Linda Zupnick.

AGAINST: None.

ABSENT: Larry Helman, Dave Wakeman, and Jim Wilson.

**3. Mayor's Report: Ben Kessler, Mayor City of Bexley**

a. Historic Preservation Committee – What could this mean for the Tree Commission?

Mayor Kessler would like to discuss on December 18, 2019.

1. Preserving our brick curbs, gutters and streets

No discussion was held.

b. Havenwood Planning Group

No discussion was held.

c. CoGo Bike usage updates

No update regarding the bike usage.

d. Other

Mayor's Solicitor's Holiday party will be held December 12.

**4. Staff Report: Elena Andrews, consulting Landscape Designer**

a. Installations reviewed and approved –

Ms.Elena Andrews provided an update regarding the installed landscape plans. The CoGo bike along Clifton has been installed per the landscape plan. The planting along Stanbery and Broad and was installed per plan. The Bexley Public Library was reviewed and was not installed per plan. Ms. Elena Andrews has reached out and waiting to hear back. The changes would require the Bexley Public Library application to return to the Tree Commission.

A discussion was held regarding actions to take if a landscape plan is not installed per plan and steps to take.

Project list

**5. City Forester Report – Grant Archer, Arborist**

Chair Quintenz shared Mr. Grant Archer's report to the Tree Commission.

a. Maples Trees on South Cassady – infill

Ms. Denise Blank wanted to infill some Red Maples along Cassady Ave. Mr. Grant Archer found four (4) locations and suggested Yellow woods for the areas where Red Maples will not work. The discussion will continue in December.

b. Number of Chinkapins for Broad Street

Four (4) locations along Broad street will be appropriate to plant Chinkapins this spring

c. Number of unfilled tree spaces for street trees

d. Plantings at Pump House Park

The corner of Alum Creek and Main Mr. Grant Archer suggested an Ornamental grass be planted instead of replacing the existing Berberis. He believes the Berberis collects too much trash.

e. Other

Ms. Kathy Rose informed the Tree Commission that the new addition to the Bexley Animal Hospital has been approved by the both Architectural Review Board and Board of Zoning and Planning. The Tree and Public Garden Commission will be reviewing a landscape plan in the near future for the property.

**6. Old Business:**

a. City of Columbus/City of Bexley – collaboration of installation north of Cassady RR tracks and South of Fifth Avenue – Mr. Helman

b. Gould road repaving and Calming Circles – Mayor Kessler

c. Commission Members Reports

1. Other

**7. New Business:**

a. Landscaping around Stanbery Columns at Broad Street

**8. Staff Reports:**

**Adjourn**

Next meeting will be held Wednesday December 18, 2019.