



Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 17, 2020
04:00 pm

These minutes are intended to be interactive minutes, referencing video and audio recordings hosted at www.bexley.org.

To view and listen to the context behind the decisions taken at this meeting, please visit www.bexley.org/meetings.

1. Convening the Meeting:

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

1. Establish a quorum –

No alternates have been appointed as voting members.

Roll Call:

Voting Members Present: Susan Quintenz; Jim Wilson; Sheila Straub; Celeste Williams; Linda Zupnick; and Dave Wakeman

Absent:

Excused: Larry Helman

Non-Voting Present: Mollie O'Donnell; Barb Giller; and Ellen Bowden

Others Present: Elena Andrews and Andy Bashore, and Richard Sharp

The plant material in the Broad street medians looks to be struggling. The sprinkler heads have been changed to a spray head instead of a drip head. A crew went in last week to weed and trim back the plant material. With the weeds gone and the sprinkler heads switched, the hope is the area can bounce back. Mr. Grant Archer will continue to monitor the area and will take next steps if it does not improve.

b. Approval of Minutes of May 20, 2020 - Mrs. Quintenz *

DRAFT 5-20-2020

Jim Wilson made a motion to Approve - 'the Minutes of May 20, 2020 as written.' Motion seconded by Linda Zupnick. **Vote 6 - 0 - passed.**

FOR: Susan Quintenz, Jim Wilson, Sheila Straub, Celeste Williams, Linda Zupnick, and Dave Wakeman.

AGAINST: None.

ABSENT: Larry Helman.

c. Announcements/Small Victories/Residents' Comments:

a. Bexley In Bloom Fundraising update – Barb Giller

No updates at this time. Ms. Barb Giller shared that the goal for Bexley in Bloom is to raise \$10,000.00.

b. WSJ and Maggie Smith –Social Distancing

Ms. Susan Quintenz shared an article in the "Wall Street Journal" featuring Bexley resident, Maggie Smith. The article is about how the author has found creative ways in dealing with quarantine and social distancing.

c. Other

Ms. Sheila Straub commented about how wonderful the flowers baskets look along S Drexel.

Mr. Jim Wilson updated the Tree Commission that the Charter Review will allow non-residents to serve as alternates to the Tree and Public Garden Commission.

[ArboretumcommitteelatterSLQ_Edit](#)

2. Landscape Applications to be reviewed: Elena Andrews, staff consultant

a. 317 South Drexel Avenue***

Steve Jones from Romanelli and Hughes, Rachel Abeles the homeowner, and Kevin from Ciminello's are all present for the landscape review. Ms. Elena Andrews presented her staff report for 317 S Drexel.

The home caught fire and due to the damage the home owners decided to tear down the home and re-build. Some of the surrounding trees near the home were also damaged and needed to be removed. Those damaged trees had been removed prior to the meeting for safety concerns. The plant material selected for the site works well with the foundation and surrounding footprint of the new build. The landscape has proposed irrigation.

Kevin from Ciminello's presented the landscape plan. The trees located in the front of the home behind the sidewalk and the street had no damage and the homeowners

would like those trees to remain. To keep a symmetrical and even look proposed boxwood will be planted in front of the front porch with hydrangeas planted on the west side of the property.

The Arborvitae located on the North side further from the home are in good condition. There are a few Arborvitae closer to the home that were damaged in the fire and in poor condition that have yet to be removed. The proposed planting once those damage Arborvitae are removed will be Viburnum Carlesii to add screening.

Landscaping is proposed to be planted on either side of the driveway. On the South side of the driveway close to the church Arborvitae will be planted to provided screening for both the church and the homeowners.

A discussion was held among the Tree Commission regarding the honeysuckle. The honeysuckle is proposed to be removed and to be replaced with other plant material to keep that screening in place. The tree canopy for the site was also mentioned and asked how they are maintaining that canopy. The existing trees in the backyard are to remain, to provide that canopy and shade.

Abeles elevation with Plants

Abeles-Front Elevations

Protection plot plan Mon May 4 2020 13-21-07

ROW plot plan Mon May 4 2020 13-23-41

Plot tree plan Mon May 4 2020 13-23-54

Abeles landscape plan

Jim Wilson made a motion to Approve - 'the landscape plan at 317 S Drexel has been approved with the following conditions:

1. Communicate with the neighbors about removing the honeysuckle and providing alternate plant material in its place.
2. Ensure that the tree protection is properly installed especially around the trees by the driveway.
3. Organize the front bed along the sidewalk through the selective removal of plant material as deemed appropriate by the landscape designer and owner.' Motion seconded by Sheila Straub. **Vote 7 - 0 - passed.**

FOR: Susan Quintenz, Jim Wilson, Sheila Straub, Celeste Williams, Linda Zupnick, Dave Wakeman, and Larry Helman.

AGAINST: None.

Roll Call:

Voting Members Present: Susan Quintenz; Jim Wilson; Sheila Straub; Celeste Williams; Linda Zupnick; Dave Wakeman; and Larry Helman

Absent:

Excused:

Non-Voting Present: Mollie O'Donnell; Barb Giller; and Ellen Bowden

3. Mayor's Report and City Arborist report: Andy Bashore, Service Director

a. Watering of flower beds and baskets

Mr. Andy Bashore provided an update regarding the flower baskets and flower beds. With the reduced staff, the water beds and flowers beds are organized into sections. The service department is watering everyday, however, the sections are addressed every other day.

b. Maintenance of gateway hardscape throughout City

The maintenance of the gateways will be taken care of in house, once the service department is back to full staff.

c. AEP – pruning and removals

AEP is in the North end to prune and remove trees. The area experiences frequent power outages and to help eliminate the issue the city has allowed AEP to prune and remove any necessary plant material that is causing power outages. Three (3) Norway Spruce trees, one (1) Black Walnut tree, one (1) Sugar Maple tree, one (1) Hackberry tree have all been removed.

Any necessary trimming and removal will happen in three (3) phases. Right now, they are working one phase one (1) of the process. AEP will be entering residents backyards to also address any issues.

A discussion was held among the Tree Commission regarding the removals and pruning that needed to be done by AEP.

d. Other

The plant material in the Broad street medians are struggling. Crews went in last week to weed the area and prune any overgrown plant material. The sprinkler heads have been switched from a drip nozzle to a spray nozzle. Mr. Grant Archer will continue to monitor the area and will take next steps if the area does not improve. The sprinkler heads in the median across from St. Charles are not currently working, due to damage done by a car.

The cameras that are being installed along Broad and Main street will detect traffic patterns and the timing of the traffic lights. They are apart of the C-Mac project that is taking place across the county.

4. Staff Report: Elena Andrews, consulting Landscape Design

a. Review of approved commercial, residential and city landscape installations

Ms. Elena Andrews provided her updates. Ms. Andrews is currently visiting sites for those landscape design that have been submitted to make sure everything has been installed per plan.

Ms. Andrews is reviewing landscape design installed by the commercial districts. If she sees and incomplete design she has reported it to Code Enforcement to so it can be properly addressed.

b. Dawes Arboretum Visit

A few members of the Tree Commission were able to visit the Dawes Arboretum and met with the director Brett Pickerington. Ms. Andrews shared photos and her experience there with the Commission. She gained a lot of ideas and inspirations for future projects.

Dawes 2

Dawes 3

Dawes 4

Dawes 5

Dawes 6

Dawes 1

c. South Community Garden

Ms. Elena Andrews provided an update regarding the South Community Garden. The South Community Gardens are coming along, there are a few more beds that need to be installed. The beds that are complete are currently being used. The plant material has been installed.

5. City Forester Report: Grant Archer, Arborist-Susan Quintenz for Mr. Archer

- a. Commission members assisting in reviewing the City street trees and Arboretum focus areas

No discussion was held. Updates will be provided at the July meeting.

6. Old Business:

- a. Installation of median at Broad and St. Charles – what next?

No discussion was held.

- b. Canopy Study – The Tree Commission’s response to One Trillion Trees and Social Justice – Arboretum Focus

No discussion was held.

7. New Business:

a. Arboretum Updates –

1. Next steps on website improvements

Ms. Mollie O' Donnell has been editing on the Arboretum website. The updates should be posted within the next few weeks.

2. Description of Arboretum tasks

Members of the Tree Commission will walk the city to see if there are any open spaces to plant news trees. An excel document will be created to guide members on what to look for when they are out walking. The tree walks should be completed by the September meeting.

b. Request for Sweet Gum removal at 2710 Brentwood ***

The homeowner at 2710 Brentwood is requesting the Sweet Gum tree on the southwest side of the property to be removed and requesting a tree not be replanted in its place. The existing Sweet Gum is healthy. The street tree for Roosevelt Ave is Tulip Poplar.

A discussion was held among the Commission about the current policy in place that allows for the removal of a tree, with the understanding that one will be planted in its place.

Brentwood 1

Brentwood 2

Brentwood 2 a

Brentwood 3

Brentwood 4

Jim Wilson made a motion to Approve - 'the removal of the Sweetgum tree at 2710 Brentwood was approved with the following conditions:

A Tulip Poplar replacement tree will be installed by the City of Bexley after the removal of the Sweetgum and its stump on a time line appropriate to the City's removal and replacement plan.' Motion seconded by Sheila Straub. **Vote 6 - 0 - passed.**

FOR: Susan Quintenz, Jim Wilson, Sheila Straub, Celeste Williams, Dave Wakeman, and Larry Helman.

AGAINST: None.

ABSENT: Linda Zupnick.

- c. Change in recommended species for Plymouth to Higan Cherry; Cassingham South to Higan Cherry and Cucumber Magnolia; Boston Avenue to Shingle Oak***

Ms. Linda Zupnick held a discussion requesting a change in species in the ROW. Along Plymouth Ave River Birch (*Betula nigra*) trees are currently in the right-of-way. Ms. Zupnick is requesting the street tree be changed to Cucumber Magnolia (*Magnolia acuminata*) trees. On S. Cassingham, the street trees are Shingle Oak (*Quercus imbricaria*) trees and is requesting the street tree be change to Higan Cherry (*Prunus subhirtella*) trees. On Boston, the street tree is River Birch trees and is requesting the street tree be change to Shingle Oak trees.

A discussion was held about the change in tree street tree among the Tree Commission.

S. Cassingham 6

S. Cassingham 7

S. Cassingham 3

Cassingham 4

Cassingham 5

725 S Cassingham 2

Linda Zupnick made a motion to Approve - 'the change of street trees along Plymouth Ave from River Birch (*Betula nigra*) trees to Cucumber Magnolia (*Magnolia acuminata*) trees. On S. Cassingham Ave from Shingle Oak (*Quercus imbricaria*) trees to Higan Cherry (*Prunus subhirtella*) trees. On Boston Ave from River Birch to Shingle Oak trees.' Motion seconded by Larry Helman. **Vote 7 - 0 - passed.**

FOR: Susan Quintenz, Jim Wilson, Sheila Straub, Celeste Williams, Linda Zupnick, Dave Wakeman, and Larry Helman.

AGAINST: None.

- d. Request for change of species planting in ROW at 725 South Cassingham ***

S Cassingham street tree is currently the Shingle Oak. The right-of-way in the area in not very large and there is not a lot of room left for the trees to expand without damaging the surrounding hardscape. The homeowner at 725 S Cassingham would like to have ornamental tree planted in ROW in front of her home.

A discussion was held among the Tree Commission about the condition of the area. Having ornamental trees planted in the area may not thrive due to the size of the canopy of the existing Oak trees. The discussion will continue in July regarding the decision to add ornamental tree in the ROW in front of 725 S Cassingham.

Celeste Williams made a motion to Table - 'the decision to approve the installations of trees in the ROW in front of 725 S Cassingham.' Motion seconded by Sheila Straub.

Vote 7 - 0 - passed.

FOR: Susan Quintenz, Jim Wilson, Sheila Straub, Celeste Williams, Linda Zupnick, Dave Wakeman, and Larry Helman.

AGAINST: None.

- e. Discussion of recommended species for ROW planting on S Columbia

On the east side of S Columbia are Paper Bark Maple trees. The trees in this areas are doing very well in this area.

8. Staff Reports:

- a. Andy Bashore – Service Director
- b. Richard Sharp – City Council Liaison

The Esac committee wanted to encourage the Tree and Public Gardens Commission to consider Ohio Native plants and flowers.

Next Meeting will be held on July 15, 2020 from 4:00-6:00 via Zoom.