



**Meeting Agenda**  
**Wednesday, July 15, 2020**  
**04:00 p.m.**

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**1. Convening the Meeting:**

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

Alternate, Ms. Ellen Bowden has been appointed as a voting member.

1. Establish a quorum –

**Others Present: Elena Andrews, Grant Archer, Mayor Kessler, Richard Sharp, and Jordan Cavallaro**

- b. Approval of Minutes of June 17, 2020 - Mrs. Quintenz \*

Minutes from June 17, 2020 approved as written.

DRAFT Minutes June 17, 2020 (2).

- c. Additions to agenda – Mrs. Quintenz

No new additional agenda items to be added to the July 15, 2020 meeting for discussion.

- d. Announcements/Small Victories/Residents' Comments:

- a. Bexley In Bloom Fundraising update – Barb Giller

No updates provided.

2014 - 2020 Trees for Bexley Projects and Dollars Raised (1)

- b. Grants approved by Bexley Beautification Fund Advisors – Grant Archer

Mr. Grant Archer provided an update about the grants provided by the Bexley Beautification Fund. The new grants will be used to add irrigation, new stone work, and end caps to the Broad and Westland gateway.

Money was also provided to allow more trees to be planted along Sheridan Ave, Broad St, Main St, and Gould Rd.

The rehab of Westland and Parkview is moving forward. The stone has been ordered and the goal to complete the project is August.

c. Congratulations Jordan!

Ms. Jordan Cavallaro is now the new Service Department Assistant.

## 2. Landscape Applications to be reviewed:

a. 189 North Merkle\*

Ms. Elena Andrews presented her staff report to the Tree Commission. Ms. Andrews had stated that all requirements needed to review the landscape application had been met. 189 N. Merkle is a new build. The home caught fire when a tree fell onto an electrical line. The existing home has been torn down.

Yvonne Riggie presented the landscape plan. In total, four (4) existing trees will be removed. The trees are located at the rear of the property and all have been damaged due to the fire and considered hazardous.

The existing row of arborvitae is to remain and will be extended. There is an existing Sugar Maple on the Northeast corner near the street. The Sugar Maple will remain.

A privacy fence will be installed around the pool. No landscape screening is needed around the pool due to its location on the property. There is no current plan to irrigate the proposed landscape. A new driveway will be added to the North side of the property.

A discussion was held among the Tree Commission regarding the lack of shade trees and canopy on the property. Currently, the homeowners are considering adding smaller trees to the front property. Japanese Tree Lilac was suggested due to the fact that it is the street tree for Merkle.

[189 N Merkle - Demolition Statement Wed Jun 17 2020 14-24-38](#)

[189 N Merkle - photos Wed Jul 8 2020 15-45-52](#)

Merkle exterior elevations Thu Jul 9 2020 11-01-18

Merkle proposed landscape plan Thu Jul 9 2020 11-01-40

Merkle site plans Thu Jul 9 2020 11-03-19

TPGR 20-3 189 N Merkle Tree Commission Staff Review 7-13-20

b. 215 North Parkview\*

Ms. Elena Andrews presented her staff report and has suggested plant material appropriate for the site. The area offers a lot of shade and that has been discussed with the landscape designer and homeowners. The homeowners at 215 N Parkview are adding an addition to their home. There is a clear line of sight from the back windows to Jeffrey Mansion and the parking. The homeowners would like to add privacy screening to help conceal their property. The homeowners of 215 N Parkview will be responsible for the care and maintenance of the proposed plant material.

The landscape designer for Jeffrey Mansion has been contacted to make sure the proposed material for 215 N Parkview will not affect the proposed landscape and construction currently going on at Jeffrey.

Since the proposed plant material will be planted on Jeffrey Mansion's property the Parks and Recreation Board will review the application and have requested the Tree Commission's recommendation for the plant material.

Nick Burger presented the landscape application. The proposed plant material for the area is a combination of Dogwood, Canadian Hemlock, Evergreen Green Giant Arborvitae, and Rhododendron. The goal for the plant material is to keep it aesthetically pleasing and a natural woodland planting palette. Both landscape designers and the homeowners are open to all suggestions the Commission has offered.

A discussion was held among Tree Commission members regarding the proposed plant material. Any trees planted on Jeffrey Mansion's property are added to the city's arboretum and may be marked. Fall and spring color were discussed and it was recommended to include plant material for the different seasons. Having both fall and spring plant material will also expand the arboretum. Irrigation will be installed and all plant material will be watered accordingly. The plant material is under warranty.

215 N Drexel Representative Images

TPGR 215 N Parkview Tree Commission Staff Review 7-13-20

215 N Parkview Ave Project Explanation

NEW OLSEN\_MANSION\_PLANTING

c. 317 South Drexel Avenue - updates

Ms. Elena Andrews updated the Tree Commission to a minor change to the landscape plan at 317 S Drexel. The existing row of Arborvitae will be removed and replaced with Emerald Green Arborvitae.

Tree Commission Project List 7-15-20

Abeles plan\_With Arb Replacement

d. 346 North Drexel – North East corner of Drexel and Maryland\*

The homeowners at 346 N Drexel planted (16) sixteen Fontaine Hornbeam in the city right-of-way. The trees are on the Northeast corner of Drexel and Maryland. The trees were planted in the right-of-way without prior review or approval of either the Tree Commission or the Staff Consultant. The newly planted trees and plant material look better than what was existing. The landscape contractor is still unknown and has yet to be contacted to address the issue.

A discussion was held among the Tree Commission regarding steps to take when any kind of plant material is planted in the city right-of-way without prior review and who should be held accountable, the contractor or homeowner. The Commission discussed homeowners signing a Hold Harmless Agreement taking the care and responsibility of the plant material. By having homeowners sign a Hold Harmless Agreement the city would no longer be responsible for the care and maintenance of any planted material. An update will be provided in September regarding a Hold Harmless.

346 N Drexel Trees in Right of Way.

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

a. Ordinance: Plantings/Installations in the Right of Way \*

Mayor Kessler presented the DRAFT ROW Ordinance to the Tree Commission and asked for the Commission's input. A couple of changes have been made regarding mulch radius, plant height, plant material, scraping or damaging the tree lawns, and vertical improvements.

Suggestions had been made to include both zones. One zone being the area between the curb and the sidewalk. The other zone being the setbacks behind the sidewalks. Residents have been putting both hardscape and landscape in the city right of way and the Ordinance will help address the issue between the curb and sidewalk. Feedback from the Commission is to make the right of way aesthetically constant and simple and to have lawn only. Sections to look over again will include rocks, small stone walls around the perimeter of the trees, and plantings around the trees. Further limitations

that will be visited at a later date. The goal is to bring the Ordinance to City Council in August

Ordinance -20 Tree Lawn Care and Maintenance

- b. Rehab of median at St. Charles and Broad Timeline

Pricing for the median upgrades are still being collected. An update will be provided in September.

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

- a. Protection protocol for trees and brick curbs/gutters in ROW\*

Ms. Elena Andrews provided an update regarding the DRAFT Tree Protection Plan she has been working on.

Commission members provided feedback for the Protection Plan to address. Brick curbs and gutters are to be addressed and specs sheets to be provided to contractors. For long-term construction projects, pedestrian and traffic flow must be safely maintained. Areas for construction material and equipment need to be stored on private property and not on city property. The protection plan needs to be reviewed by the City Attorney before going into effect

City of Bexley Tree Protection During Construction DRAFT July 2020

- b. Review of prior commercial, residential and city landscape installations

Ms. Elena Andrews has reviewed a few more landscape designs. She will continue to work through her list in the fall.

- c. Other

Bullock Easement - 2006 95 ORDINANCE 95-06

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

- a. Watering

All plant material is getting watered twice a week. The Service department returns to full staff at the of July.

- b. Template for reviewing City street trees and Arboretum focus areas – Mr. Archer and Ms. Cavallaro

A template will be made and sent to those Commission members who volunteered to walk around the city to locate areas to plant a tree.

Infill Tree Field Notes

- c. Tree Take Downs – new procedures

Twice a year a list is made up for Tree Commissions members to review which city trees need to be removed due to hazardous conditions. Going forward, the removal list will no longer be approved by the Tree Commission. The city forester will however keep members informed about the number of trees coming down and the species.

- d. Outcome of removal of sweet gum at 2710 Brentwood

Homeowners are fine with the removal and placement of a new tree.

- e. Additional paper bark maples in ROW on South Columbia

The west side of Columbia is under review and the selected trees will be planted accordingly.

- f. Other

The tree stumps from the recent removals are not a priority and will be addressed when the Service Department is back to full staff.

Broad and Gould irrigation systems are all under warranty and will be replaced within the next few weeks.

**6. Old Business:**

- a. Canopy Study of trees on both private and public property\* - Mrs. Quintenz

The Tree Commission would like to endorse a canopy study for both public and private property. They have a pretty good idea about the number of trees on public property, but they would like to gather information about the number of trees on private property.

- b. Arboretum website updates – Mollie’s edits have been uploaded by Sam!

Ms. Mollie O'Donnell provided her edits for the website and all are now published to the website. A new website is currently under construction for the city. The arboretum page will have a new look in the near future

**7. New Business:**

- a. Election of Chair and Vice Chair – Mrs. Quintenz\*
- b. Trees for Bexley 2020/2021 fundraising focus – Ellen Bowden, Chair TFB\*

Ms. Ellen Bowden wanted to discuss some of the upcoming Trees for Bexley 2020/2021 fundraising. Projects that were discussed were Havenwood, Commonwealth, and the College and Livingston gateway. Projects currently on-going that have received grants are; the design plans for Commonwealth, North and South side of Broad street trees.

**8. Staff Reports:**

- a. Richard Sharp – City Council Liaison

No updates.