

The Parkersburg Tree Commission met for the regular meeting on June 9, 2009 at 1:00 pm at the City Park Conference Room, with Turner Sharp, president presiding.

Members present:

Betty Camp (arrived 1:05 pm)
Jerry Edman (arrived 1:30 pm)
Pamela Lutz
Willis Ridenour
Turner Sharp
Sauny Williams

Members absent:

Mike Reynolds

Others:

Andy Sheetz
Donna Davis

Willis Ridenour made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2009 meeting as distributed. Sauny Williams seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Budget Review: Donna stated that she did not bring the finance report but will include it for next month.

Tree Memorials: Donna stated there aren't any new memorials but she is still sending out information.

Arborist report: Bob Russell was not present but Donna stated that a few trees had been removed due to the storms and that he (Bob) had installed the plaque for the John Blomberg memorial tree yesterday.

OLD BUSINESS:

WVU student: Donna stated that she has not heard anything back as of today but she will be seeing Bob Hannah tomorrow at the Urban Forestry Council meeting and will ask then.

Tree plantings: Donna stated that she will give the list at next month's meeting as she forgot it also. These plantings will be mainly for the grant replacements.

Willis Ridenour discussed the Historic Trees. Discussed about waiting until the fall to place an order. Donna gave him the price list and the availability of trees.

Tree Ordinance changes: The committee determined that this will take a while to complete. Pamela Lutz stated that they have gathered materials and talked with Bob Hannah. She passed around a survey to all Board members asking to fill it out and return. Discussion on presenting this to City Council tonight. Sauny Williams will speak at Open Forum at City Council and distribute to Council members and ask that they return to Donna within the next two weeks.

Tree maintenance project: Donna distributed the maps and the 15 page list of poor condition trees. The committee reviewed and Turner, Willis, Betty, Sauny and Pam each will report back with their findings of the trees then will decide on the worst areas.

NEW BUSINESS: None

OTHER BUSINESS:

Turner stated that the Tree Register has been updated on the computer. Advised he has submitted four (4) trees to the State Register and has been asked to assist with the State's register. The trees submitted are a Yew and Magnolia on the Lutz property, Zelkova at the Henry Logan property and a Chinese Elm at the Presbyterian Church.

Pam asked if grounding rods in trees will protect from or attract lightening? Committee discussed this issue. Betty Camp stated that the new library at Marietta College has lightening rods.

Discussed the walking tour brochure of the Big Trees. It is outdated and needs redone.

Donna stated that Dina Braniff of the Lubeck Garden Club would like someone to speak at their August meeting. Turner Sharp stated if there's no conflict with his schedule he will speak.

Pam discussed the planters at 4th and Market and 6th and Market. The 4th/Market planters look very nice but 6th and Market needs some work. Stated that she would do the work if the commission would pay for 4 boxwoods. Sauny Williams made a motion to reimburse Pamela Lutz up to \$100.00 for planting and materials for the planters at 6th and Market Streets. Willis Ridenour seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Donna stated that this could be her last meeting and that she has enjoyed the challenge and working with the boards. She advised she would help when needed. Sauny stated that the Commission had discussed to honor her with a tree planting. Donna chose an Ivory Silk Japanese Lilac to be planted at the Southwood Park.

Jerry stated the last storm, 3 large pines were damaged at the toll booth. He stated he was going to have all the trees at the Memorial Bridge evaluated and will seek the advice from the tree commission. Andy suggested for wind and sound break to use an arborvitae. Sauny stated that she will ask the Garden Council for monies to assist with the project.

With no further business to discuss, Willis made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Sauny seconding the motion. Meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Davis