



Shade Tree and Beautification  
Commission Meeting

Minutes

May 30, 2017  
3:00 PM

**CALL TO ORDER**

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Kate Burley	Board Member	Excused	
James Brown	Chair	Present	
Brian Ball	City Engineer	Present	
Joel Daniels	Safety Service Director	Excused	
Marilyn Nagy	Board Member	Present	
Dave Carpenter	Parks Superintendent	Absent	
Tom Mickley	Board Member	Present	
Jim Meyer	Board Member	Present	

Judy Ashcraft - Recording Secretary; Susan Karhl-City Council and Brian Wade-Wade and Gattton  
Jim Meyer is the newest member of the Shade Tree Commission. He has been employed at First-Knox National Bank for 18 years and lives in Mount Vernon with his family.

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Finance Report:

Jim Brown stated that the Purchase Order has been made for the tree pits and they have been put in on W. Gambier Street. Trees were planted at the Middle School for Arbor Day, also trees are going in at Memorial Park. Our budget is \$15,000.00 a year from Council and we have used about 1/3 of the budget in spring planting.

In years past we have planted at the mini parks and have split it up since we have the mini parks current with the projects we will have more for trees now. We have been able to get grants from the Ariel Foundation, with the grants we have planted 1800 trees in the last few years.

Susan Kahrl had someone ask about a list of the trees on E. Gambier St. The Engineering Department has the list of trees being removed on E. Gambier St.

- **Shade Tree and Beautification - Commission Meeting - Apr 25, 2017 3:00 PM**

Mr. Mickley made a motion to accept the April 25, 2017 minutes. Susan Karhl seconded the motion. AIF, motion carried.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Brian Ball, City Engineer
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Marilyn Nagy, Board Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Brown, Ball, Nagy, Mickley, Meyer
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Daniels
<b>EXCUSED:</b>	Burley, Carpenter

## **ARIEL GRANT**

Ariel Grant:

Tree removal-East Gambier St. is coming along pretty well and we still have to do the stump grinding. East Gambier St. is top priority because ODOT will be paving the road.

Trees will be taken down across from the Fire Station on W. Gambier St. and work will start tomorrow. Columbia Gas is working further down on W. Gambier St.

Kate Gibson is a summer employee for the Engineering Department and is keeping track of the tree contracts.

Mr. Ball asked Mr. Wade if it was too late for planting some trees on E. Gambier St. this year. Mr. Wade stated that a few could be planted.

Mr. Brown stated that 290 bags were hung on the trees a couple of weeks ago.

None of the Ariel interns signed up to help water the trees.

Brian Ball, Kate Burley and Jim Brown walked Wooster Road and came up with some ideas for removal and replacement of trees and was not sure where Kate was with the application which was part of the big grant. Mr. Ball stated that Wooster Rd is part of the big grant and not many of those trees have been removed yet but some of that is already under contract. Brian stated that we would check with Kate.

Block Grant for Pleasant Street - Mr. Ball stated that this project is 3 projects in one. We have waterline, sidewalk, road and tree removal which is hopefully under construction in 2017 to remove the trees and to do the full rebuild but with the timing he doesn't think we will be able to plant trees until the fall of 2018 or the Spring of 2019. Most likely the project would not have funding for the trees but we tried something new and have had the preliminary planting ahead of the projects, 19 or 20 spots for the trees, identified with or without power lines, shifted the sidewalk in some places up against the curb so that the trees can grow out of the lawn areas and has made a lot of sidewalk adjustments for nice planting areas. Mr. Ball stated that the CDBG Block Grant would not be able to buy the trees. Planting of the trees could be this fall or spring depending on how things go.

### **Fall Planting:**

Mr. Mickley stated that a list is being put together for property owner list where trees have been removed on W. Gambier, W. Chestnut St, W. Sugar St. and W. Vine St. looking for an agreement with the property owners to water and partner to take care of them. Mr. Mickley stated that they have met with the City Officials and they looked over the agreement that they would use for those property owners and it is being revised and developed.

Mr. Brown explained that we do fall planting every year as part of our commission, people asked for trees and we provide them a tree and they are responsible to water them.

This year with the grant program, most of the money went to tree removal and we will not be able to plant as many trees. Karen Wright has said she would like more trees planted. We are looking at a program, since we are a Tree City USA we were looking at calling it Tree City Partners and the plan is to partner with the homeowner where we would provide the tree and the property owner would provide the care.

## **MEMORIAL PARK**

There are holes that have been put in the ground at the park and the trees need to be planted. Kids are playing in the holes so the holes need to be planted. Mr. Wade stated that he would talk to Dave Carpenter and then we can coordinate what to do.

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL TREE MARKERS**

Seven trees were planted at the Middle School for Arbor Day and we had talked about putting tree markers at the base of the trees with the Latin name and the date. Kate Burley had suggested that maybe we could do something

like Ohio State does at their Arboretum to mark the trees with recycled plastic that looks like wood and sticks in the ground with a plaque that is engraved. This is something we need to think about and decide if this is something that we want to do for the Middle School or all trees in the future.

Mr. Ball suggested that we talk to the maintenance crew at the school and see if they have a preference of what is easier to mow around. Mr. Brown stated that as long as it is in the mulch they did not have a preference.

#### **West Ariel Foundation Park**

Mr. Brown stated that the 18 acres at Foundation Lake the Boy Scouts planted 600 trees and there has been discussion about using that and putting it into a Arboretum.

Mr Brown talked to USDA and there was a gentleman in to talk from Zainsville to do a soil sample at the 18 acres but has not received the report yet. If the soil is in good shape the project will be much easier to get moving along.

Marilyn Nagy has a new neighbor who is interested in being on the Shade Tree Commission. He was the former City Planner for the city of Aurora and is a master gardener and she thinks he would be a good asset to the commission. He could be a volunteer and could invite him to the next meeting.

Mr. Brown stated that he invited Lisa Bowers from the Urban Forestry to the next meeting.

#### **Arbor Day**

Mr. Brown asked Mrs. Nagy if High School Students should be invited to Arbor Day next year.

Mrs. Nagy stated that she and Kate Burley had talked about giving the trees to families at Earth Day instead of Arbor Day. Also giving trees at First Friday if there are extras.

### **ADJOURN**

Mr. Ball made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Marilyn Nagy seconded the motion. AIF, motion carries.