

SHADE TREE COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

November 1, 2023

3:00 P.M.

- Kaleb Dorweiler, Hillsdale City Forester called the Shade Tree meeting to order at 3:09 PM.

- Board members present: Gary Stachowicz and Jason Sellers. Jason Blake, DPS Director was also in attendance. Elaine Tillinger was unable to attend. A motion was made by Jason to excuse Elaine from the meeting. Motion was seconded by Gary.

- Approval of minutes: motion was made by Gary to accept the minutes of the August 2nd, 2023 meeting. Motion was seconded by Jason.

- Public comments: none

- Old business:
 - BPU line clearance update: Kaleb gave an update on BPU transmission line clearance. Gary mentioned that he thought the homeowner should be responsible for taking care of the cut wood.
 - County trees on shared streets: Jason stated that he has not had time as of yet to work on getting tree maintenance agreements in writing with the county.
 - In house tree crew update: Kaleb gave an update on BPU's position regarding an in house tree crew. Jason mentioned contracts for storm removals to keep a contractor on our list could be beneficial.
 - New committee members: Kaleb mentioned that he has not yet reached out to Joanne Miller regarding serving on the committee. Gary pointed out that if Joanne joins the committee we should ideally add one more member as well.

- New business:
 - Historic tree ordinance: Kaleb mentioned the possibility of adding a historic tree ordinance to protect large city trees. All present expressed support for pursuing a historic tree ordinance, and Gary mentioned that we should also allow private citizens to add trees on their property if they would like.
 - Tree service removals: Kaleb discussed recent removals by Complete Tree Service and Farrell Enterprises.

- Adjournment: a motion was made at 3:42pm by Jason to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Gary.