



SHADE TREE COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 11<sup>TH</sup> 2017

Gary Stachowicz, Hillsdale City Forester called the Shade Tree meeting to order at 3:03 P.M.

**Board members present:** Dr. Maria Bidny, Jake Hammel, Angie Girdham and Barb Vallieu. Bud Heinowski arrived at the meeting late.

**Approval of minutes:** Dr. Bidny made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Motion was seconded by Angie and carried unanimously.

**Public comments:** None

**Old Business:**

- A. Tree payment: Gary mentioned to the committee that Hospice of Hillsdale paid in full the total of \$2,308.87 for two Honey locust trees that they needed removed in order to re-construct their parking lot.
- B. Right of Way/ Landscape letters: Gary handed out to the committee member's copies of two separate letters that he will be mailing out to residents/business owners as it relates to city right of ways/greenspace areas that the city has been maintaining and no longer will be. These are the responsibility of the adjacent property owners except for city trees which will still be the responsibility of the city to maintain. Barb made a suggestion that before any letters go out that the city somehow inform the residents that this will be taking place. The committee thought this would be a good idea and Gary said he would get the city manager's opinion on how he would like to pursue this.

**New Business:**

- A. Tree City USA application: Gary informed the committee that he will be starting the Tree City USA application soon. The deadline for submitting applications is December 31<sup>st</sup>.
- B. Sidewalk/tree issues: Gary informed the committee that in the near future he will be identifying trees along Garden St, Vine St, Mead St and Rippon Ave that will need to be removed as part of a grant to re-construct those streets. Trees that interfere with sidewalk grade issues or are in a state of decline will be removed. Jake mentioned that as part of the grant the city will try to have some of those funds allocated towards tree removals and or tree replacements but this generally does not happen.

- C. City property at 70 W. College St: Gary informed the committee that a developer out of the Detroit area has expressed interest in purchasing a one acre parcel of city property adjacent to land he just recently bought at 84 McClellan St. Gary said that it is a rather young, nice stand of walnut trees and there is no agreement as to whether the city will sell the property or not. He also stated that any such agreement would have to be approved by city council.
- D. 2018 meeting schedule: Next year's meeting dates were included in the packets. The committee agreed to change the November 7<sup>th</sup> meeting to Wednesday October 17<sup>th</sup> 2018.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Barb made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:49 P.M. Motion was seconded by Dr. Bidny and carried unanimously. The next scheduled meeting is set for Wednesday February 7<sup>th</sup> 2018 at 3:00 P.M. at city hall in the second floor conference room.