

MINUTES
City of New Castle Tree Advisory Commission
March 2, 2020 – 4 p.m.
New Castle Town Hall

Members Present: John Antonio, Chairman
 Tom Maddux
 Sheila Shannon

Mr. Antonio called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Roll call followed and a quorum to conduct business was declared.

MINUTES

A Motion to approve the Minutes of the February 3, 2020, meeting as presented was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

NEW APPLICATIONS

2020-02 – 14 The Strand – Randall Brockett

Mr. Brockett submitted an Application for approval to plant two European Hornbeam trees in front of 14 The Strand.

A Motion to approve planting two European Hornbeam trees in front of 14 The Strand was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

Mr. Brockett asked if a formal Permit would be issued, and Mr. Antonio explained that a copy of the approved Application will be sent to him.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Tree City USA Bulletin

Ms. Shannon advised that she received a Tree City USA Bulletin published by the Arbor Day Foundation from Mayor Quaranta and offered to have copies made for the Commissioners. Mr. Antonio advised that he had also received a copy of the Bulletin. Mr. Maddux did not receive a copy and will read Ms. Shannon's copy. Mr. Maddux added that the Tree Advisory Commission plants a tree every year on Arbor Day.

Grant Money

Mr. Maddux noted that Ms. Linda Ratchford informed him that the Commission missed the February deadline to apply for a \$5,000 Grant for tree planting. He added that the present Commissioners were unaware of the Grant Application deadline. Mr. Maddux will take responsibility for filing a Delaware Urban Forestry Grant Application through the Delaware Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Program with the Delaware Department of Agriculture next year. During discussion, it was noted that Ms. Ratchford had brought the Grant to the attention of the previous Tree Advisory Commission President.

Arbor Day

The Commissioners discussed Arbor Day and Mr. Maddux volunteered to research the details of the Tree Advisory Commission participation with the City. It was noted that MSC does the planting.

New Tree Advisory Commissioner

The Commissioners discussed potential candidates. Ms. Shannon suggested Mr. Larry Reno and volunteered to reach out to him to ascertain if he has any interest in the post.

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Tree Identification

Mr. Maddux showed the Commissioners a copy of Dirr's Encyclopedia of Trees and Shrubs and explained it was used at Winterthur to identify trees. He also noted that there is an app available to download for tree identification.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Antonio called for a Motion to Adjourn.

A Motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:09 pm was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

Kathy Weirich
Stenographer