

Minutes of Perrysburg Street Tree Commission

Meeting Held April 6, 2026

CALL TO ORDER - 9:00 AM

Chairman Scott Kirby called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Commission members present were Christine Ardley, Mark Easterling, James Hagen, Scott Kirby, Dan Ledyard, Rob Ross, and Kali Sawaya (7). Public Information Officer Casey Kenworthy and Natural Resources Manager Lauren Rush were also present (2).

Angie Thetford of the Country Garden Club was also present, and Rob Ross thanked her for their tree donation.

Two students from Notre Dame Academy were in attendance to observe the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 2, 2026 MEETING MINUTES

Mark Easterling moved to approve the March 2, 2026 meeting minutes as written. Seconded by Scott Kirby, and the minutes were unanimously approved (7-0).

NEW BUSINESS

City-Wide Brush Pick Up Begins

Rob Ross said that brush pickup has begun on the west side of town. Dan Ledyard added that some areas of town are heavy with brush due to the storms and said that it will take crews about a month to complete.

OLD BUSINESS

Remove Tree Bags from Previous Two Year Plantings

Dan Ledyard said that crews are still working on removing tree bags, noting that it's filler work for the rain delay days.

Arbor Day Progress

Jim Hagen mentioned that the artwork has been picked up, and the Commission further discussed the indoor and outdoor locations for Arbor Day. Casey Kenworthy said he is working on putting together the booklet for Arbor Day and coordinated further with the Commission on the booklet's specifics. Arbor Day is set for Friday, April 24th, at 2:00 p.m. at the Commodore Building.

Lauren Rush added that there will be a litter clean-up event at Municipal Park after the Arbor Day event.

Tree City USA Northwest Ohio Meeting - Wednesday, May 13

Dan Ledyard said that the registration has been paid for those attending the Northwest Ohio Tree City USA meeting on May 13th, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. He added that he will send an email reminder to those attending. Dan briefly reviewed the Agenda program with the Commission.

Kali Sawaya asked about the presentation for the Growth Award and if Stephanie had sent back the awarded points yet regarding Lauren Rush and the brush/recycling component.

Pruning/Removal Report

Dan Ledyard reported that there were 41 removals, 61 trims, and 21 stumps removed. He added that there were 26 spots around the city that were impacted due to storm damage.

Rob Ross left the meeting at 9:42 a.m. to head to another meeting.

Downtown Revitalization Project Update

Mark Easterling noted that the Commission has done well with educating the public on the Downtown Revitalization Project.

Discuss Potential Committee Member Recommendations/Update

Kali Sawaya mentioned that she knows a guy in landscaping with a background in soil science. Dan Ledyard said that he will speak with Mayor Weber at the Service Committee meeting to follow up on recommendations. Angie Thetford said that she will ask members at their next Country Garden Club board meeting if there is interest in joining the Commission.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dan Ledyard noted that large trees have been removed along Fort Meigs Road for the ditch project, and added that construction starts in May.

Dan said that he has been coordinating with GIS and DPU for a tree tracker map, and Kali Sawaya said that this would be great for Growth Award points.

James Hagen said that he has a friend who lives near the fort where utility work (cable) was recently performed. He added that the workers cut the roots of the arborvitaes that were in the easement, and Mark Easterling confirmed that landscaping should not be planted in the easement and that the company does not have to replace them.

There was further discussion about the option of gaining Growth Award points related to GIS.

Mark Easterling said that he would bring the site plan for the proposed Perrysburg Square site at 25818 N. Dixie Highway to the May meeting.

There was further discussion about the tree that was removed at the corner of Heilman Avenue and Fort Meigs Road, as a complaint was received. Dan Ledyard said that he had the company put it on the ground as it was not a safe situation.

James Hagen asked about the trees that were removed on SR-25 in front of the car dealership, and Dan Ledyard said that those were removed in preparation for the bike path that is to be installed. He added that the trees will be replanted.

Dan Ledyard referenced the Tree of Heaven, and Lauren Rush confirmed that the city received a \$15,000.00 removal grant mid-March with a ten (10) percent match that runs through July. It was confirmed that the city hopes to remove some of the trees as soon as possible. Casey Kenworthy said that he can work on a press release with Lauren Rush regarding this grant.

Dan Ledyard noted the 250th tree dedication on April 16th, at 4:00 p.m. at Hood Park, and added that it would be great if Commission members could attend.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Alfaro
Recording Secretary

Next meeting is scheduled for May 4, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.