

Minutes of Perrysburg Street Tree Commission

Meeting Held May 5, 2025

CALL TO ORDER - 9:00 AM

Scott Kirby, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll call taken: Scott Kirby, Rob Ross, Dan Ledyard, Kali Sawaya, Jim Hagen and Mark Easterling (late) were all in attendance. Christine Ardley and Mike Deal were absent.

APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 1, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

Jim Hagen made the motion to approve the March 3, 2025 meeting minutes and Scott Kirby second the motion. All in favor (6-0).

No minutes were taken at the April 1, 2025 meeting because there was not a quorum. Notes were taken and you will find them in Other Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Sweet Gum Issue

Dan Ledyard asked Scott Kirby to assess Sweet Gum trees at two locations (350 East Fifth and 742 Heathermoor). Scott Kirby said the trees at both locations are in good condition. Legally and fundamentally, for public safety, we need to refer to the ISA guidelines. If someone would damage the tree, they are liable for the value of the tree on top of a replacement.

We need to update the ordinance and Dan Ledyard and Kali Sawaya will both take a stab at this. We need to refer to the two books Scott Kirby shared with us (Tree Risk Assessment and Guide for Plant appraisal - ISA). Once they submit the ordinance change and it is approved, it will be corrected in the ordinances.

Review Budget and Make Recommendation to Administration Regarding the Street Tree Deduction on Property Taxes (keep the same, raise or lower)

Rob Ross said there is no plan to lower the deduction. Jim Hagen said if you are okay with the amount, leave it as is. Maybe down the road we will need to increase for planting, removals and equipment needs.

OLD BUSINESS

City-Wide Brush Pick-Up Update

Dan Ledyard and Rob Ross both commented that there was a little more than average in some areas of town this year.

Arbor Day Update

Scott Kirby said Arbor Day went well. Jim Hagen said Lauren Rush did an exceptional job. He has some thoughts on how to organize this event for the upcoming years. In the program, the Street Tree Commission members should be introduced at the beginning and the proclamation be read right after. Send original artwork home with students (in envelopes with their names on them). Announce date that the posters will be hung. Next year or so, poles may be limited due to construction. Jim Hagen will put together a "to do" sheet for the chair/co-chair.

Tree City USA and Growth Award Program

Bowling Green had a nice setting. Kali Sawaya signed the City of Perrysburg up to host in a few years. The group will be smaller then. The annual report to Council is done in June and June 17th is the date Scott Kirby and members would like to be added to the agenda. Rob Ross will get them on the agenda and will send a confirming email to all.

Riverford Plat 11, Coventry Plat 4 and Sanctuary and Sanctuary in the Woods Street Tree Selection Discussion

Alot to cover on this item and not enough time at this meeting. Will put this item first under Old Business for June's meeting.

Uptown Street Tree Assessment Update

Phase II is being designed and we will need to choose two more species of trees.

Pruning/Removal Report

Dan Ledyard reported 10 removals, 48 trims and 48 stumps in March and 5 removals, 48 trims and 33 plantings in April.

OTHER BUSINESS

We need to make a decision on either changing the time of our meetings, risk losing 2 people or move to Conference Room A for set up remotely.

There was not a quorum for the 4/1/25 Street Tree Commission meeting but those in attendance talked about Arbor Day and handed out assignments and reviewed the program.

Kali & Jim were working together in picking up the winning posters and then getting them to Next Day Signs to be made into posters. Kali will reach out to Lauren Rush to see if she would speak at Arbor Day. Dan is in charge of getting the tree planted, shovels, flags, proclamation, speaker system, etc.

Those in attendance: Scott, Jim and Dan. Those late: Mark and Kali. Those not in attendance: Christine, Mike and Rob.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:26 a.m. with Kali Sawaya making the motion to adjourn and Mark Easterling seconding it. All in favor (6-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Ivan
Street Tree Commission

Next meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.