

**Shade Tree Commission
Minutes
February 14, 2018 at 4:00 pm
Athens City Council Chambers**

Meeting Attendees: John Kotowski, Lee Gregg, Emilie Wood, Nancy Walker, and Peter Kotses.

1. Title 33: Tree Permit, Right-of-Way Issues, Public Land
There were no Title 33 Issues that came before the Commission today.
2. Title 37: Landscape Ordinance Issues
There were no Title 37 Issues that came before the Commission today.

The Commission did discuss a project that has recently begun in Athens at the former flower shop on the corner of East State Street and Madison Avenue. The discussion at the Commission Meeting was that a project at this site was brought before the Commission a couple of years ago, but never proceeded. There was a question at the meeting regarding why the project was not resubmitted in its current configuration (it is the belief of the Commission that the project is not of the same scale as originally proposed). John Kotowski indicated that he would speak with Mr. Sirois, the Director of Development, Enforcement and Facilities about the project.

Post Meeting Note: John Kotowski spoke with Mr. Sirois and he indicated that the property was subdivided into four parcels and that each stands as a separate project. Mr. Sirois indicated that each of the projects/parcels comply with the requirements of the landscape ordinance. Mr. Sirois indicated that per discussions he has had in the past with Mr. Ingram, our chair, if the project complies there is not necessarily a need to bring the project before the Commission. John Kotowski asked Mr. Sirois to do what he had done the previous month with the Stewart/McDonald and the Little Fish projects, and that is to notify the Commission that the project has been submitted, approved and that it does meet the requirements of the landscape ordinance.

3. Report by Ron Lucas
There was no report today by Ron Lucas.
4. Maintenance of the Tree Canopy
There was no discussion today regarding the tree canopy in Athens.

5. Other
Nancy Walker asked about whether the City was comfortable with the letter template she drafted. John Kotowski indicated that he did not know but would speak with Mr. Sirois and find out.

Lee Gregg noted, that the annual Tree City USA meeting this year is in Portsmouth on the Shawnee State University campus on April 12, 2018. There will be more information to come.

6. Minutes of the January 10, 2018 meeting.
These minutes were recommended for approval by Nancy Walker and seconded by Lee Gregg. The Commission unanimously approved the January minutes as presented.

Next meeting: March 14, 2018 at 4:00 pm in the Athens City Council Chambers