

## Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2025

### 1. Open Seat on Commission, New Chair Vote in

- Tristan Kinnison forwards himself as Chair of Shade Tree Commission.
- Gene Deubler motioned; Joanna Sokol seconded. Found none.
- 3/3 voted yes on new chair.

### 2. Establish Quorum

- Members present: Tristan Kinnison, Gene Deubler, Joanna Sokol, David Riggs

### 3. Title 33: Tree Permit, Right of Way Issues, Public Land

- Commission presents a list of contractor qualifications. Persons or companies shall meet to perform work for hire on pruning, removing or planting of trees on public property.
- **Proposed qualifications:** [ISA certified](#) employee for tree maintenance, proof of liability insurance, workers comp certificate, licensed with the city.
- A deadline will be established to allow contractors time to meet standards. Contractors will be notified and alerted.
- **Point of Contact** - Tristan Kinnison.
- **Follow up:**
  - i. Craft a letter for the contract over the next week and send to David Riggs.
  - ii. Once this is established completely, add information and contact to the website.

### 4. Title 37: Landscape Ordinance Issues

- City suggests moving the pollinator yard out of Title 37 to Title 9 (where invasive material is).

### 5. Maintenance of the Tree Canopy

- Request for removal was presented to the commission. Strouds Run Road has dead trees both on private and city property.
- Tristan K. motioned; Gene D. seconded.
- Passed.

### 6. New Business

- Sustainability commission and Shade Tree will coordinate to improve submitting requests online.
- **Open seats on commission.** Mayor makes appointment: members give info to Mayor; he will reach out to potential members.

- Tree City Information: work toward point structures and awards.
- **Arbor Day:** April 25, 2025.
  - i. Collaborate with Katherine Ann Jordan ([kjordan@ci.athens.oh.us](mailto:kjordan@ci.athens.oh.us)) and Voinovich on an event.
  - ii. Potential tree planting locations: around new fire house, armory, little park mound street, west side park by student farm.
  - iii. **Follow Up:** Tristan will get in touch with Katherine, Gene will contact Voinovich.

## 7. Old Business

- Committee Updates
  - i. Communications/Website: update emails, add invasive control.
  - ii. Student Project: Bio blitz of east side. Athens Public Library will host. Community Non-Profits will be in attendance to help. **April 19, 2025.**