

# ATHENS SHADE TREE COMMISSION

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11th, 2025 AT 6:00 PM  
MINUTES

Streaming is available at [www.ci.athens.oh.us/video](http://www.ci.athens.oh.us/video)

## 1. Establish Quorum

- Joanna Sokol, Tristan Kinnison, Michael Lincoln, Michael Wood

## 2. Disposition of Minutes

- August 14th, 2025  
Motion: Michael, 2<sup>nd</sup> Joanna, Approved

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

None

## 4. Title 37: Landscape Ordinance Issues

None

## 5. Maintenance of the Tree Canopy

- Lincoln St. Pines
- Resident reached out again and asked Kurt Nail to take them out.  
Removal of all of them this week or next week.

## 6. New Business

None

## 7. Old Business

### • ODNR Grant

- May be getting thrown out because we didn't have a vote from City Council. We had a letter of support because council was out for August. Ann Bonner said we might be out of consideration, but no official word yet.

### • GIS Template from bioblitz

- Public education event. Using INaturalist for inventory. Large project. Eva Miller took it on but was abroad in summer. Eva is in a GIS class at OU now and will resume the project.

### • STC Code change

- No further discussion has happened since last meeting. Athens Independent article published soon.

- **Arbor Day Celebration and planting for Nov. 8**

- Along the bike path right off Stimson behind fire station.
- Have tools, and tree list has been updated.
- Facebook event to get people interested. City FB, possibly Give Pulse?
  - Make sure we have volunteer waiver ready.

## **8. Announcements & Other Business**

- Mike Woods Community meeting with folks doing rain gardens. Teresa Caldwell was there.
  - People asked if STC would block residents from planting trees. We have nothing to do with private yards. We only approve if the trees are planted in city ROW, roughly 10 feet or so of street, depending on location. We want to be a resource, not a hindrance.
  - Residents also commented that the approved tree list is old. They are right. Some of the trees are not native, but we don't feel that the list should be strictly natives.
  - STC should revise the list, especially related to climate change.
- Mike wants to do more rain garden events and Teresa has a grant to provide more education to residents.

## **9. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn: Michael. Second - Joanna. Adjourned.

- **Next meeting: October 9th, 2025**

The City of Athens supports the Americans with Disabilities Act. Requests for reasonable accommodation may be made with the ADA Coordinator in the City Building or by calling 592-3367.