

**City of Lake Forest Park - Tree Board Meeting
Regular Meeting Notes: September 5, 2018
17425 Ballinger Way NE –Forest Room**

Tree Board Members present: David Kleweno, Courtney Siebken; Tim Hohn; Julia Bent; Tom Hanson

Staff and others present: Lauren Hoerr, Assistant Planner

Members of the Public present: Mike Dee, Resident; Dave Hildebrandt, Resident

Tree Board Members absent: Karen Hugg; Gordon Smith; Tyson Greer

Call to order: 7:16 PM

Short Reflection: Shared by Tim Hohn

Approval of Meeting Agenda:

Street Tree Discussion, Educational Inserts, Sunday Market Outreach, and New Board Members were struck from Old Business. Examining Exceptional Tree Definitions was moved to the next meeting, as well as Short Plats and 15% Tree Tract and Canopy Coverage Goals. Ms. Siebken moved to approve the agenda as revised. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hohn and approved unanimously.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

August 22

Ms. Greer's name is misspelled on line 23 of page 1. Mr. Hanson moved to accept the minutes as revised. Mr. Hohn seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Public Comment:

Mike Dee

Mr. Dee stated he is glad the Tree Board wants to take another look at the Tree Ordinance and Tree List.

Dave Hildebrandt

Mr. Hildebrandt stated that he is Horizon View resident - feels the canopy coverage percentages need to be graduated. He said that his 17,000 sq. ft. lot's goal is 58%-60%, and a 15,000 lot is 39%, so a difference of 2,000 sq. ft. requires 4,000 sq. ft. more coverage. He recommends a graduated coverage goal rather than a gross percentage. When he purchased his lot there were no plants but he now has 120 trees which he paid to plant and maintain over the last 30 years. He feels that he now needs to get a permit to thin the trees, but there is no provision for crediting him for what he planted. He feels that the permit fee is a "tax" on him, whereas those who do no landscaping or maintenance are free from these fees. He also installed solar panels to try to save carbon emission, but needs to thin trees to be able to expose them and would pay permit fees for that as well and is not allowed to top them, regardless of how much pollution he may be preventing with the panels. Mr. Hildebrandt feels there is a lack of incentive to be responsible in landscaping.

Next meeting:

The next regular meeting occurs on Wednesday October 3, 2018. Mr. Hanson will likely be absent.

Communication:

Old Business:

ELM Presentation Follow-Up Discussion

Steve Bennet and Ms. Hoerr will draft a proposal based on lines 10 through 15 on page 2 of last month's meeting notes and provide it to the Tree Board for approval. Locating the shape files from the previous study is still an outstanding item. Mr. Hohn mentioned it would be nice if members who were not going to be present at meetings could provide any information they were assigned to update the Board on to Mr. Kleweno or Ms. Hoerr so the Board could still discuss it at the meeting.

NUD Follow-Up

NUD is planning to mention LFP tree regulations (and all the other municipalities they serve) in their September newsletter. Ms. Bent provided them with a link to the code. We will see if it gets published in the newsletter this month. No updates on the tree planting yet. Ms. Bent and Mr. Hohn will try to come up with some tree species to plant there this fall.

Tree Board Members

Ms. Hoerr will resend the application materials to members.

New Business:

30 Parcel Study

The ground truthing's purpose would be to discover why the canopy has increased or decreased on any lot. Mr. Hanson and Mr. Gordon discussed that the two of them might be able to do it over the course of a few days, pending the discovery of the 2009 files. Mr. Kleweno agreed to follow up with Ms. Greer to see if she asked Chris Overdorf about the naming convention of the Jones & Jones files. Mr. Hanson said he thought it would be easy to also assess the ivy threat on the lots that are ground truthed.

Tim's White Paper

Mr. Hohn mentioned that this way of thinking about and discussing trees in the urban context is somewhat new (past 20 years) but does have some momentum. He is presenting this as an overlay and not as an alternative to the current regulations. It was discussed that there would need to be more research into forest management and what is currently being done, and it may not be applicable in all neighborhoods or all lots. However, Lake Forest Park is unique in that it has the opportunity to discuss the idea of groves, where other communities don't even have groves to consider. Ms. Bent pointed out that the board may have no time, with their other goals outstanding, to introduce this. Mr. Hohn believes it could dovetail with current goals. He hopes it can at least float in the minds of Tree Board members to see where it is relevant in the context of what we are already working on.

Presenting ELM Canopy Study Conclusions to Council

Discussed under ELM Follow Up under Old Business

Reports and Announcements :

Frontlines with Lauren

Ms. Hoerr stated that the Crane hearing was pushed out because the tree that originally did not meet the threshold diameter for being considered exceptional has since grown and is now considered exceptional.

Ms. Hoerr said that Ashley is still working on the tree list, so suggestions are still welcome.

Agenda for Next Meeting:

Street Trees; ELM Update; Exceptional Tree Definitions; Short Plat Canopy Coverage Calculation; Midterm Review; Outreach (educational inserts); Ivy Discussion; Grove White Paper Follow Up

Ms. Bent moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kleweno seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Adjournment: 8: 35 PM

APPROVED:

David Kleweno, Chair