

**City of Kent, Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**June 17, 2019**  
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**Members Present:**

Audrey Kessler  
Andrew Scholl  
John Belfiore  
Peter Kierstead

**Staff Present:**

Brad McKay, Facilities Mgr. /Arborist  
Rebecca Swauger, Account Clerk

**I. Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 5:04 by Audrey Kessler

**II. Roll Call**

Audrey Kessler, Andrew Scholl, John Belfiore and Peter Kierstead were present. Also, staff members Brad McKay and Rebecca Swauger.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

Audrey Kessler made a motion to approve previous minutes, second motion made by Andrew Scholl.

**IV. Staff Report**

Mr. McKay said that the downtown trimming/removals had begun in June and that the rain had put us behind a bit. He also spoke of the removal of a tree in front of Kent Natural Foods that had left some people upset, although they seemed to calm down when they found out a new tree would go in its place. Mr. McKay estimates that there are 12 trees that need to be removed in the downtown area. He plans on planting different species such as Gingko and Red Buds. Davey Tree will be doing the planting.

**V. Old Business**

Mr. McKay updated on the start of structural pruning for tree health scheduled to begin after July 4. Not until November for Oak Trees, also asked the company who is doing work for the electric company to sanitize their equipment due to mites on the Oaks. There will be no removals during pruning.

**VI. New Business**

Mr. McKay talked about planting in October, also said there will be more locations and species in the future.

Davey Tree is in the process of enhancing their software.

Mr. Scholl asked when the planting of the retention pond would occur.

Mr. McKay said that they did the planting on Ivan after Thanksgiving and it seemed to work well, so the target for the pond would be around the same time of year.

Mr. McKay said they are still talking about no mow grass at the police station that meets zoning requirements. The contractor for this project did a poor job and never came back to the Police Department. The city is currently in talks with Davey Tree regarding a 3 year contract for police site as well as the retention pond.

Mr. Scholl asked if this is something that could be turned into a publicity event and recruit volunteers.

Mr. McKay said he has not had a good experience with volunteer groups. People are more likely to volunteer for a park system.

Mr. McKay updated that trees had been removed on Hudson Road in order to replace the water lines, the plan is to have this area complete prior to the start of school in August.

The members agreed to hold the next meeting on July 15, 2019 at 5:00pm.

#### **VII. Adjournment**

Hearing no further business, Audrey Kessler made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:01pm, the motion was seconded by Mr. Scholl.