

CITY OF CORTLAND
LANDSCAPE AND DESIGN COMMISSION
Minutes – June 14, 2018
Mayor’s Conference Room at 4:00 p.m.

Members Present: Mike Dexter (Chair), Paul Paradine, Anne Doyle, Diane Batzing

LDC Consultant: Jim Maloney

Approve March 15, 2018 Minutes: Comm. Doyle, 1st; Comm. Paradine, 2nd

May 2018 Tree Program Planning

- The Common Council has approved \$10,000 in funding (to be reimbursed by the DEC grant matching funds); Jim Kisker of Schichtel’s Nursery has informed us they will go ahead with digging our trees.
- Finance Director Mack Cook has informed Comm. Batzing that the 30 gatorbags for watering newly planted trees may be purchased online by her credit card and reimbursed by the tree program funds.
- Funding for stump removal has not yet been approved; we have several locations that need to have stumps removed before planting can occur.
- Comm. Batzing is waiting to meet with the Mayor regarding some residents’ concerns about planting small trees in favor of large trees, as well as the Commission’s request to override the requirement that property owners’ taxes need be current in order to receive trees; we feel that trees are a benefit the entire city.

Recent Tree Concerns/Notes

- Comm. Dexter and Jim Maloney spent this afternoon surveying tree situations in the City, as well as completing some trimming.

Other

- Comm. Dexter attached our 11th year emblem on the Tree City USA plaque in the City Hall entrance. Comm. Paradine received our recognition materials at a meeting in Albany on March 29th.
- Comms. Dexter and Batzing and Jim Maloney met at the local DEC office on Fischer Ave. to discuss the Chesapeake Bay tree planting grant with Matt Swayze (local rep) and Mary Kramarcyk from Albany. In 2020 we will plant 25 trees. This project will involve a community education component, with area municipality invites.
- Arbor Day project: Jim Maloney and National Grid will provide a Commendation maple tree to be planted at Barry School. Arbor Day occurs on the last Friday of April, but because students will be on vacation at that time, the hole will be dug ahead of time and students will be present the next week for planting and the Arbor Day Proclamation.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, May 10, 2018 – Mayor’s Conference Room at 4 p.m.

Respectfully, Comm. Batzing