

**CITY OF CORTLAND
LANDSCAPE AND DESIGN COMMISSION
MINUTES – April 10, 2014
Mayor’s Conference Room at 4:00 p.m.**

Members Present: Mike Dexter (Chair), Anne Doyle, Suzanne Etherington, Paul Paradine, Theresa Quail, Diane Batzing

Consultants: Jim Maloney, Steve Broyles

Approve the March 13, 2014 Minutes: Comm. Etherington, 1st; Comm. Doyle, 2nd

2014 Tree Program Planning

- Comm. Dexter noted the March 13th Cortland Standard ‘Ongoing Tree Planting Program’ article and photo.
- We will ask the mayor for additional tree purchasing money if we have more applications than trees.
- Because of field conditions at the nursery, Schichtel’s will be delaying our tree delivery until May 6th. Nick Dovi indicated that this will work out better for the DPW because of the prolonged pot hole patching this year. Planting will commence on the 7th.

Arbor Day Planning

Jim Maloney and the Commission will plant a sawtooth oak donated by Steve Franco at Suggett Park on April 24th. Mayor Tobin will make the Arbor Day Proclamation at 9 a.m. on Friday, April 25th.

DEC Urban Forestry Grant

Steve Broyles spoke with Mary Kramarchyk in Albany recently and was told that our application looked very strong and that the number of applications is down from previous years.

NYSEG Variance for Charles St. Regulator Station

Comm. Paradine reported that plans are progressing on the project and thanked Comm. Dexter for Commission support. A local artist, Rebecca Johnson, will paint the regulator station to fit in with the landscaping. An application has been sent to the NYSEG field planner to request monies for native plant garden plantings, including junipers, and milkweed as a monarch food source. It will include a bronze plaque noting, “National Backyard Wildlife Sanctuary.”

Recent Tree Concerns/Notes

Comm. Dexter and Jim Maloney have looked into a number of situations including:

- Pomeroy St. resident is concerned that a Nelson Tree Service pruned pin oak is bothering the sewer lines. This is a healthy tree and Nick Dovi does not believe roots are the problem, but he will investigate.
- 130 Central Ave. resident is concerned about the condition of his London planetree. Comm. Dexter and Jim will look at it.
- A tree at Copeland and Evergreen is in bad shape.
- Jim consulted with a resident on Fox Hollow regarding his Colorado blue spruce.

Other

- We need to consider what species to choose for a replacement tree at the Waterworks. The blue spruce that Comm. Dexter decorates with holiday lights is rapidly deteriorating. CRT will provide \$1000 toward the tree in exchange for allowing them to remove a locust for their new Port Watson St. entrance. A Serbian spruce was suggested. This planting could serve as our 2015 Arbor Day tree.
- Comm. Dexter commented about the high number of stumps around the city. He has mentioned to Nick Dovi that he should hold back on cutting trees down when possible, until the stump removal situation improves.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, May 8, 2014 – Mayor’s Conference Room at 4 p.m.

Respectfully,
Comm. Batzing