

CITY OF CORTLAND  
LANDSCAPE AND DESIGN COMMISSION  
Minutes – March 10, 2010

**Members Present:** Mike Dexter (Chair), Anne Doyle, Meghan Cerveney, Jeff Davidson, Nick DeCarlo, Diane Batzing

**Guests:** Mayor Susan Feiszli, Tom Tobin, Ann Hotchkin

**Approve February 10, 2010 Minutes:** Comm. Davidson, 1<sup>st</sup>; Comm. DeCarlo, 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Tree Lottery Discussion with Ann Hotchkin**

Ann distributed “Responsibilities of Office of Community Development” and “Outstanding Issues” for discussion. Ann has worked at Thoma for 23 years, with 875 trees being planted to date. Tree Lottery monies come from miscellaneous revenues provided by the Rubbermaid settlement.

Ann asked the Commission if we would like to keep the Lottery and if we think she is doing a good job. The response was “Yes,” but that we would like to have more collaboration. Commissioners do not have the resources to write grants or to run the lottery.

This year’s bid contract includes swamp white oaks, utility friendly red chestnuts, and 4 Princeton elms. Comm. Davidson stated that we could plant 250 bare root trees for the same amount of money spent on 45-50 trees.

There was a discussion about volunteers doing pruning versus insurance issues, as well as commissioners inspecting trees while under warranty.

We discussed the letter that was written for Tree Ordinance violators.

Considerable time was spent on the Commission’s desire to maintain acceptable planting standards by the contractors who plant the trees. This includes planting healthy trees with the root flare above grade and the removal of the top third of wire baskets.

Mayor Feiszli would like to see a process for inspecting the trees that will be planted. She will check to see where the money from National Grid’s utility-friendly payments go (\$50 per tree) and whether we can use it for landscaping projects (such as the Port Watson/Church St. project). She will also check into finding potential commissioner additions.

Ann Hotchkin would like the Commission to make a list of things we would like to do with her program.

Tom Tobin said that Public Safety can expand what they do to assist the Commission.

**Colorado Blue Spruce Planting and Volunteer Pruning**

Jim Maloney will be bringing a tree to replace the Church St. tree that has been removed. Also, he will set a mid-May date for tree pruning in the city.

**NEXT MEETING: April 14, 2010  
City Hall, Mayor’s Conference Room  
4:00 p.m.**

Respectfully,  
Comm. Batzing