

CITY OF CORTLAND  
LANDSCAPE AND DESIGN COMMISSION  
Minutes – September 8, 2010

**Members Present:** Mike Dexter (Chair), Nick DeCarlo, Suzanne Etherington, Jeff Davidson, Diane Batzing

**Approve July 14, 2010 Minutes:** Comm. Davidson, 1<sup>st</sup>; Comm. Etherington, 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Update on S. Main St. Tree Replacement**

Countree Landscaping, will be replacing eighteen trees on S. Main St. in October. Bryan Gazda indicates that the funding is available.

**Revision of Ordinance/Letter to Mayor Feiszli**

The Commission discussed the content of a letter to the Mayor for Council consideration that would change Tree Ordinance language by placing the ownership of trees in the right-of-way from the property owner to the City.

The Ordinance addresses the removal and trimming of healthy trees at City expense but does not address the concern of removal and trimming at the property owner's expense. We would like to have input with major changes to **all** public trees in our efforts to better preserve Cortland's tree canopy and to spare the City of unnecessary expense.

The Arbor Day Foundation publishes a Tree City USA Bulletin titled *How to Write a Municipal Tree Ordinance* which offers an example of language that appeals to our commission:

*No person shall plant, remove, cut above the ground, or disturb any tree on any street, park, or other public place without first filing an application and procuring a permit from the city forester. The person receiving the permit shall abide by the standards set forth in this ordinance.*

**2011 Tree Lottery Changes**

We will include a 10-day timetable for inspecting the trees upon arrival at the contractor's and again following their planting. Also, a resident will be first on the next year's list if a small tree (for under the wires) is not currently available.

**Possible 2011 Garden Projects to Consider**

Ideas discussed include City entrances, the Port Watson St. parking lot, park entrances, Pudgie Pizza, Starr Bistro, and the corner of Homer and Madison

Respectfully,  
Comm. Batzing

**NEXT MEETING: October 13, 2010  
Cortland Water Works Pump House  
6:30 p.m.**