

CITY OF CORTLAND
LANDSCAPE AND DESIGN COMMISSION
MINUTES– June 8, 2011
Mayor’s Conference Room, 4:00 p.m.

Members Present: Mike Dexter (Chair), Anne Doyle, Jeff Davidson, Suzanne Etherington, Diane Batzing

Advisory Rep: Jim Maloney

Approve May 11, 2011 Minutes: Comm. Davidson, 1st; Comm. Etherington, 2nd

NYSEG/Charles St. Project

Comm. Paradine met with Glenn Fritts of Country Lawn and Landscape who will present his quote for the project over the weekend. E-mails have been received from the residents stating their support for the project. These letters, along with the fence and landscape quotes will be forwarded to NYSEG for their approval on Monday.

Expressmart Project

Broadway residents Mick and Joan Lowie are requesting fence changes to the plan. Code requires twenty feet of 4’ tall open fencing along the property line from the sidewalk; the Lowies would prefer ten feet of 4’ open fencing, then ten feet of 5’ tall closed fence, followed by 7’ tall solid fencing along the back of the Expressmart project. Twenty feet of 4’ open fence will meet the 7’ fence from the Water St. sidewalk. Requests for these changes will be presented at the June 27 Planning Board and the July Zoning Board. Originally, a 6’ tall solid fence was approved for the south line of the project, overlooking code standards for vehicles’ clear view at sidewalks.

Expressmart has taken Commission recommendations for the hedge and shrubs, and for keeping the mature tree on Water St.

EAB Notification and Tree Tagging

Jim Maloney has secured over 100 tags and will suggest dates for the Commission to tie them to City ROW ash trees. These tags will help alert residents to the signs of emerald ash borer infestation and provide a phone number to call for reporting and additional information. Comm. Dexter will contact the Cortland Standard about writing an article concerning the problem and the EAB tagging program.

2011 Tree Lottery Update

This year’s recipients have been notified. The Commission will inspect the trees at Countree Lawn and Landscape in Lapeer when they arrive from the nursery. Comm. Dexter and Jim Maloney will check on the 2010 Lottery trees as well as trees planted last summer on S. Main St.; some appear to be struggling.

Tree Ordinance

Patrick Perfetti forwarded to the Commission an opinion written by Larry Knickerbocker on October 19, 2006 stating that the City “does have the right to plant trees within the right-of-way.” We were not aware that this opinion existed, but it empowers the City to plant a tree where appropriate.

As a starting point toward revising the Tree Ordinance, Comm. Etherington will secure other municipalities’ ordinances for reviewing and comparison.

NEXT MEETING: July 13, 2011 – Mayor’s Conference Room – 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully,
Comm. Batzing