

CITY OF CORTLAND
LANDSCAPE AND DESIGN COMMISSION
MINUTES– September 14, 2011
Mayor’s Conference Room at 4:00 p.m.

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

Guest: Andy Hillman, President, NYS Urban and Community Forestry Council; Regional Business Developer, Davey Resource Group

Approve Minutes: Comm. Doyle, 1st; Comm. Davidson, 2nd

Andy Hillman Presentation: “Tree Ordinances with Teeth That Can’t Be Extracted”

Andy emphasized that we have the power and authority to control the trees.

One of the most important things to include in a tree survey is the condition of the trees. This is necessary for maintenance and for identifying hazardous trees.

The single most important thing to include in a tree ordinance is the name of a single person responsible for overseeing all tree-related activities.

An ordinance needs an alphabetical list of definitions.

A city has either a right-of-way or an easement.

Examples of items included in the Ithaca ordinance: damages prohibited; protection; coordination of review; penalties for offenses.

A recommended book: *The Law of Trees* by Victor Merullo; also, *The Tree Ordinance Development Guidebook*

The website <<istreets.com>> has a “tree calculator” that gives values of trees per year.

Hillman gave two sources for tree grants: The Dept. of Environmental Justice for EJ grants, and The Green Initiative Program which funds up to 90% of a project.

Recommended nurseries: Schichtel@trees.com; Lake County Nursery (Ohio)

We discussed several varieties to consider for Cortland’s Tree Lottery.

Pendleton St. Trimming

Jim Maloney has volunteered to work with the Commission to trim lower branches on Pendleton St. on October 1st.

Other: The Expressmart maple will need to be removed; 41-43 Church St. tree will be removed and replaced by the owner.

NEXT MEETING: October 12, 2011 – Mayor’s Conference Room – 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully,
Comm. Batzing