

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 10, 2011 MEETING

Present: Nils Abate, Todd Bradbury, George Futterknecht, John Kashwick, Anthony Lupardi, Sr. and Louise Ungar, Members; and Leslie Weatherly, Coordinator  
Absent: Susan Boudet  
Guests: Bill Fuchs, Kathi Cochran and Adam Nock

Commission was not held in December due to the lack of a quorum.

Nils called the meeting to order with the Open Meetings Statement. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Nils Abate was sworn in for another term as a member of the commission by Council Member John Kashwick. Kathi Cochran was also sworn in for her first term as Alternate Member #2 of the commission by Councilman Kashwick. Adam Nock will be a full member of the commission. He is a member of the Environmental Commission and had been sworn in there.

By unanimous consent, Nils was nominated as Chairperson and Louise was nominated as Secretary of the commission. Both agreed to serve in those capacities.

The minutes of the November 8<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as presented.

Our guest and the newly sworn members were asked to tell us a little bit about themselves. They complied.

**Meeting Opened to the Public:**

There were no additional members of the public in attendance.

**Correspondence:**

An Arbor Day Foundation Bulletin had been received.

**Old Business:**

Leslie reports all of the take downs from the list have been taken care of.

It was stated Budget requests will be due soon. After discussion, it is suggested we request \$50,000.00 for the year 2011.

For the benefit of our guest and new members, Nils gave a brief overview of how the commission functions. One of our requests is for a Lap Top Computer. Nils is looking into new software to keep track of the street trees in the Borough.

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It was mentioned that in the event of a severe storm, the state could declare a State of Emergency. If this occurs, federal funds are probably available to assist in paying overtime to workers.

Nils spoke about the Five-Year Management Plan.

There was discussion about future plantings. It was suggested we plant in the districts where take downs occur. We had been able to do this in the last plantings schedule.

The question was asked about the success rate from plantings. It was felt very few trees were lost.

George stated the Pollock Square trees survived, but there is now some deer damage. Todd has procured 100 tree guards and is willing to supply some of them to the commission. Nils has a neighbor who is working on a prototype. He will contact him for information. A question was asked about the identification of the trees planted at Pollock Square Park.

Regarding the trees in the downtown area, specifications were drawn up for trimming and bids are being invited. Nils gave some history about the downtown trees. George spoke about the Pear trees in town that in some cases are lifting up the grates that surround them. We should be addressing this now. Bill Fuchs made a suggestion about a different type of planting.

Todd is disturbed about root issues with trees from some nurseries where problems show up in later years. There was discussion about bare root trees. Bill Fuchs states storage is a problem. Too much soil on top of the roots can be a problem. He informs us bare roots must be protected and kept watered, and they cannot be held. This would have to be part of the specifications when they are given out to bid. They have a better summer survival rate. In response to a question, it was stated they are available in two to three inch caliper. Are bare root contractors available? We have to find contractors who are willing to do this and inquire what species of trees they have. These could be planted where trees have been removed. After more discussion, M/S/C (5 yes, 1 abstention) we do a bare root planting this year and allocate \$1,000.00 to this endeavor.

John reports the Tree City USA application was submitted. The Accomplishment Report is due to the state by February 15<sup>th</sup>.

**New Business:**

District #2 was scheduled for the Pruning and Maintenance Program last year. The April 1<sup>st</sup> planting was primarily done in the Historic District. According to our schedule, District #6 should be planted this year with Pruning and Maintenance done in District #1.

John spoke about our need to meet the Continuing Education Unit requirements. Bill Fuchs might be able to help us with some.

There being no further business, M/S/C the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise G. Ungar  
Secretary