

**CITY OF GAHANNA
LANDSCAPE BOARD
MINUTES – September 1, 2010**

CALL TO ORDER:

Melissa Hyde, Chair, called the Landscape Board meeting to order on Wednesday, September 1, 2010, at 5:55 p.m. at Gahanna City Hall.

ROLL CALL:

<u>Present:</u>	Jane Allinder Mark DiGiando Melissa Hyde Frank O'Hare Ken Shepherd
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In attendance from the City Administration was Troy Euton, Deputy Director, Department of Parks & Recreation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

O'Hare made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes from the August 4, 2010 meeting; seconded by Shepherd. **On roll call vote:** O'Hare, Yes, Hyde, Yes, Shepherd, Yes, Allinder, Yes, and DiGiando, Yes. **The motion carried 5 – 0.**

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

HEARING OF VISITORS

Foxwood Subdivision Trees

Orlanda Bidner 492 Kasons Way Gahanna Ohio 43230

Ms. Bidner brought the proof plans of the Foxwood Subdivision for the street trees signed by the committee on February 13, 2003. Ms. Bidner has several concerns when entering the subdivision there are some type of Pear tree planted, the plan calls for Red Maples. The developer has deviated from the plans approved by the committee. The developer has not planted any of the street trees. On Preservation Lane the plan calls for the Emerald Ash tree; which is not allowed to be planted in Ohio. Ms. Bidner has spoken with Bonnie Gard, the City Zoning Administrator and Rob Wendling the City Forester with the zoning concerns requiring the trees on the plan and the developer not installing the trees.

O'Hare stated that the developer should be following the plans that were approved by the Planning Commission. O'Hare stated that the Landscape board could make a recommendation to Planning Commission and Zoning to review and enforce the plan. O'Hare stated this needs to go to zoning for enforcement of the plans. O'Hare stated the developer can come back and get an exception to the plan regarding the Emerald Ash trees. Zoning should enforce the plan. It is up to the developer to go back to Zoning and this Board to revise the plans. O'Hare stated it is up to the Zoning Administrator to contact the developer.

O'Hare recommended Ms. Bidner go on record at a Planning Commission meeting regarding this issue and go to Clerk of Council to get copies of the Planning Commission meeting minutes from the meetings where this development was discussed and approved.

Euton will contact the City Zoning Administrator and communicate with her about these discussions and the need to get in touch with the developer.

Academy Ridge Trees

Patricia Walden 980 Ridge Crest Drive Gahanna Ohio 43230 and Rich Marinzel from the Academy Ridge Community Association.

Walden stated the Association has been working with Rob Wendling the City Forester and sent a letter to the Landscape Board regarding the subdivision street trees. The trees in the subdivision are having significant tree problems. The Ash trees have EAB, the Pear trees have Fire Blight and the Crab Apple trees have Fire Blight and Apple Scab. The Trustees have decided not to treat the infested trees, rather replace them.

The Association would like to not follow the regulation of one type of tree on a street. With having 56 Ash trees all infested, it has been recommended that the association replace compatible trees on a given street. So that if another disease comes through the neighborhood will not be in the same situation.

The Association would like to get approval to submit a plan that would have a variety of trees on it that have been recommended from their landscape architect and the City Forester. The plan will show the replacement of the trees over the next five years as they die and also addressing the spacing issue of the trees. Currently over 50% of the street trees spacing does not comply with spacing guidelines. Rather than have each individual owner bring in a plan the Association would like to submit one plan for the subdivision to the Landscape Board in October. The Association would like to start planting some trees now closer to the Ash trees that are going to be the first to go.

O'Hare stated there are underground utilities that have to be taken into consideration when planting. Walden stated one of the reasons for hiring the landscape architect was to work drawing out a complete plan.

Euton stated current code calls for a street tree to be the same trees. O'Hare stated this board could make an exception to the code. Euton will find out from zoning where the plan needs to go first; the zoning administrator or directly to this board. Euton believes this board can approve the plan and make a recommendation to the Planning Commission. Hyde stated that it is a good idea to have a tree plan for the development.

Hyde would like to include Academy Ridge Tree plan on the October agenda. The board would like to have the plan two weeks prior to the October meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Tree/sidewalk update

Euton stated that city staff has been discussing and researching other communities regarding street trees and sidewalks. The current Gahanna ordinance requires residents to take care of sidewalk issues damaged from trees. Euton shared the research from other communities

NEW BUSINESS:

CORRESPONDENCE AND ACTIONS:

Resident letter/tree pruning

Euton shared research from other communities regarding pruning of private trees. The issue raised in the letter received regarding the neighbor pruning a neighbor's tree is a civil matter.

POLL MEMBERS FOR COMMENT:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Allinder made a **MOTION** to adjourn; seconded by DiGiando. Motion carried unanimously.

The Landscape Board meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Submitted by,

Pam Crossmock, Administrative Assistant

Approved this _____ day of _____ 2010

Melissa Hyde, Chair