

**Minutes of the Highland Tree Commission Meeting**  
**Korte Recreation Center**  
**September 6, 2011**

**Members Present:** Kathryn Comish, Jeannie Korte, Darrel Newman, Bill Peck, Mark Rosen, Barb Stallard  
The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Peck at 4:00 pm. The minutes of the April meeting were approved. (No meeting in May due to Arbor Day celebration. Meeting canceled in June due to lack of quorum.) There were no guests or resident requests.  
Bill reported that Patricia Steiner and Sheila Gruender have resigned from the Tree Commission. All members were asked to think about and recommend possible replacements.

**Old Business:**

Cemetery Entrance Plan – Three Way Creations has submitted a landscaping plan for the Highland City Cemetery Entrance. It incorporates a courtyard, bubbling boulder, benches, pine trees and a variety of bushes.

Green America Awards Grant – Bill reported that we did not receive the Green America Awards Grant. The awards committee seemed to favor projects such as urban gardens and community food bank projects. Bill plans to submit the grant request again next year.

Arbor Day Celebration Comments – Members felt that our Arbor Celebration this year went very well. We had good attendance, from school children to senior citizens. All seemed to enjoy it.

News Leader Favorite Tree Series – Barb reported that Curt Libbra from the HNL was waiting for all articles to be submitted by TC members before beginning this series. All articles are now in, so Barb will check with Curt about a timeline and order for the series. We anticipate seeing the series begin this fall.

**New Business:**

Apple Tree at 1624 Beech – The TC was asked to make a recommendation on possibly removing this apple tree as requested by the resident. Darrel and Bill looked at the tree and reported that it is in poor condition and hangs over the roadway. TC recommended removing the tree.

Kiosk Arboretum Sign – Mark reported that the plaque identifying the Arboretum and stating its purpose has been mounted on the kiosk.

Arbor Day Plans 2012 – Bill asked members to begin thinking about Arbor Day plans for next year with an eye towards incorporating something special to coordinate with the 175<sup>th</sup> Jubilee of the City. Suggestions include having a biggest tree contest and/or highlighting 175 outstanding trees in the City. TC members will continue to brainstorm for ideas.

Oates & Associates Comment/Peripheral Route Design – TC members were asked to comment on plans proposed by Oates & Associates for landscaping along the City's peripheral route. This extensive plan if approved would be accomplished over several years as budget allows. The primary concern voiced by the TC is maintenance. New plantings require regular watering and established plantings require regular care. Is there sufficient staff and budget for this? Bill will pass on these comments to the appropriate persons.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35. The next meeting will be October 4 at 4:00pm.