

**SHADE TREE COMMISSION  
MINUTES  
AUGUST 11, 2025  
5:00 PM**

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Began at 5:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL:

- Rita Connelly –present
- Karen Wise –present
- Larry Silenius – present
- Jim Funai – absent

Tim Contant, Chairman – present

Matt Harper – present

Jim Jenkins, Arborist – present

Julie Ring, Shade Tree Secretary – present

III. APPROVAL OF JULY MINUTES: Larry Silenius made motion to approve the minutes. Karen Wise seconded the motion. All in favor.

IV. ODNR:

- Joe Moeghlin, from the ODNR Forestry Division, came in to update the Shade Tree Commission (STC) on the Urban Forestry Grant. Mr. Moeghlin stated that the grant has been closed out and that the new grant application process closes on August 27, 2025.
- Planning a tree planting refresher at Walsh University and in collaboration with Stark County
- Burlap sacks is to be removed from tree when putting in a new tree.

V. ARBORIST UPDATE:

- 624 S Chestnut (Front #1) – Clearance issue with building; prune off roof 5-7’
- 469 S Diamond (Front #2) – Tree dead; recommended for Removal
- 844 S Diamond (Front #1) – No significant issues with the tree; tree should be retained
- 844 S Diamond (Front #2) – No significant issues with the tree; tree should be retained
- 309 Elm (Front #1) – Tree dead; recommended for Removal
- 117 E Main (Front #1) – Clearance issue with building face; prune off building 5-7’
- 750 Midland (Front #1) – Tree would not need to be removed if sidewalk is replaced
- 500 E Riddle (Side #3) – Clearance issue with street traffic signal; prune up 10-14’ off roadway and 6-7’ over sidewalk for pedestrian traffic
- 500 E Riddle (Side #4) - Clearance issue with street traffic signal; prune up 10-14’ off roadway and 6-7’ over sidewalk for pedestrian traffic
- 500 E Riddle (Side #5) - Clearance issue with street traffic signal; prune up 10-14’ off roadway and 6-7’ over sidewalk for pedestrian traffic
- 883 W Riddle (Front #1) – Sidewalk uplift noted, utility pruned, deadwood. If sidewalk is replaced, tree will need to be removed

- 1045 Shadowlawn (Front #1) – Tree would need to be removed if sidewalk was installed
- 1015 Sunnywood (Front #1) – Serious decline; recommended for Removal
- 898 Susan Rd. (Front #1) – Noted anthracnose; should clear up
- 898 Susan Rd. (Front #2) – Noted anthracnose; should clear up
- 898 Susan Rd. (Front #3) - Noted anthracnose; should clear up
- 898 Susan Rd. (Side #1) – Showing signs and symptoms of fungal issue; Retain and Monitor
- 899 Susan Rd. (Front #1) – Noted anthracnose; should clear up
- 1001 Susan Rd. (Front #1) - Noted anthracnose; should clear up
- 1001 Susan Rd. (Front #2) - Noted anthracnose; should clear up
- 1007 Susan Rd. (Front #1) - Noted anthracnose; should clear up
- 1055 Susan Rd. (Front #1) - Noted anthracnose; should clear up
- 330 N Prospect (private tree) – Tree was found to be dead and is in close proximity to the adjacent property owners garage located at 328 N Prospect St.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS:

- Get RFP ready for putting out to bid.
- Bags need to stay on trees until the tree roots are established.
- Jim Jenkins has components together for the grant application.
- Balloon-A-Fair booth – maybe solicit for a Shade Tree Commission member being needed.
- Portage County Soil & Water used to give trees away.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT: No public present

Karen Wise made motion to adjourn the meeting. Rita Connelly seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 5:35pm.

Next meeting is October 14, 2025.

Prepared by Julie Ring, STC Secretary