

MINUTES
Tree Conservation Commission Business Meeting
Remote via Zoom
Tuesday, October 20, 2020, 4:45 pm

Zoom Meeting link for joining by computer:
<https://zoom.us/j/97544400144#success>
Meeting ID: 975 4440 0144
Dial-In: 301-715-8592, access code: 975444400144#

Commissioners present: Susanne Blam, Sarah Boles, Jack Cebe, Katherine Moore, Lawrence Richardson

Staff present: Kathy Evans, TCC staff.

1. **Minutes.** Unanimous approval of September 15 business meeting minutes.
2. **Hearings.** Discussion of virtual meeting format, reminder of ShareDrive.
3. **Discussion of Evidence.**
 - Discussion of evidence vs. proof. Evaluating all testimony and materials submitted and weighing their relevance. Discussion of hardship and financial hardship guidelines for individuals and differences for businesses.
 - May help to develop guidelines for the materials members would like to see. Jack Cebe will work to draft a list. Also, burden of proof is on appellant to show how ordinance was not followed.
4. **Standard Operating Policy.** Arborist Division is developing SOP for dead/dying/hazardous trees and will be submitting to TCC for review, possibly before next TCC Business Meeting.
5. **Hearing Schedule.** Review schedule and confirm availability.
Confirmed for October 21: Richardson, Boles, Tisdale.
Confirmed for October 28: Richardson (tentative), Boles, Moore, Cebe, Tisdale.
6. **Tree Ordinance Update.** Had hoped for update by end of October. CDHS Work Session may be scheduled for December 7, per Council Member Westmoreland. Discussion of preservation standards and concern about percentage-based preservation. Question about whether interim measures would be helpful. Discussion of impact of not having arborists in the field. Council Member Ide would like to receive information about any incidents of concern. Discussion of concern that new ordinance should prevent clearcutting of trees. Perception that it is occurring more often.
7. **New Business. None.**