

# Town of Indian Trail



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## PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

# PARKS, GREENWAY, AND TREE COMMITTEE

March 6, 2007

6:00 p.m.

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

#### **PRESENT:**

Gary Vaughn  
Bill Smith  
Pat Meehan  
David Hogue

Sherry Clontz  
Mike Lunsford  
David Grant

#### **ABSENT:**

Don Helms

### PLANNING STAFF

#### **PRESENT:**

Shelley DeHart, Planning Director  
Lisa Walton, Junior Planner/Grant Writer

**I. Call to Order:** 6:00 pm Meeting Called to Order by Gary Vaughn, Vice Chair.

**II. Approval of Minutes:** David Hogue to approve, Sherry Clontz seconded the motion and there was a unanimous vote to approve February 6, 2007 minutes.

**III. Purpose of Meeting and Announcements:** Lisa Walton, Junior Planner/ Grant Writer announced that the meeting would be taken in a different approach than the last meeting. Basic information and examples of how other jurisdictions dealt with each tree topic will be given by David Grant, Urban Forester. The topics that are intended to be covered in this meeting: Tree Plantings, Large Tree Removal and Large Tree Replacement.

David Grant, Urban Forester stated that the text in a Tree Ordinance is very important. Gave an example of Mineral Springs where a development cut a large buffer of trees.

He then spoke about the new i-tree software and the study that will be done in Indian Trail and Marshville. Once the study has been done someone from i-tree will hold a training session on the new software for municipalities in Union County.

## **Attachment 2: Food for Thought**

David Grant went over some possible questions and ideas to consider while thinking about Planting Requirements: What does Indian Trail consider to be important in regards to a minimum percent of shading in parking lots, and a list of acceptable or recommended species?

### **IV. Tree Plantings**

David Grant touched on parking lot shading provisions. He mentioned that one basic performance standard is the amount of shade to be provided by trees in parking areas after a set period of time, such as 50% of pavement shaded in fifteen years. He then asked whether committee members felt that 50% was a reasonable percent of shading.

Shelley DeHart mentioned that the Indian Trail Zoning Ordinance has an existing formula for parking lot shading with 20% shading.

At first committee members felt that 50% was a high percent. After discussion the committee member's decided to have David Grant bring some examples of a parking lot with various different percents of shading.

Mike Lunsford suggested that once the ordinance is adopted there should be diagrams and constructive guides given to developers on how to use/apply the ordinance.

David Hogue suggested applying the ordinance to a mock site plan.

A list of acceptable or recommended tree species was the next topic of the meeting. A list of tree species should be provided in the ordinance with several options that developers can use to meet the tree canopy needed.

Lisa Walton stated that the Zoning Ordinance had an existing list of tree species. Shelley DeHart copied the list of tree species for all committee members.

Once the committee had a chance to view some of the species on the list everyone came to an agreement that the list needed to be revised.

Bill Smith stated that the list of tree species consisted of mostly shrubs. He suggested there be list of shade trees used for the canopy requirements and then the shrubs can be planted under the shade trees.

Pat Meehan mentioned that the Town of Matthews recently adopted a list of tree species. He explained that the recently adopted list had groups of small, medium and large trees.

Bill Smith and Pat Meehan decided they would prepare a list of tree species with groups of small, medium and large trees to present at the next committee meeting.

### **V. Adjourn**