

Town of Indian Trail



P.O. Box 2430
Indian Trail, North Carolina 28079
Telephone 704/821-5401
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

PARKS, GREENWAY, AND TREE COMMITTEE

April 19, 2007
6:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESENT:

Don Helms
Gary Vaughn
Bill Smith
Sherry Clontz

Pat Meehan
Mike Lunsford
David Hogue
David Grant

ABSENT:

None

PLANNING STAFF

PRESENT:

Lisa Walton, Junior Planner/Grant Writer

I. Call to Order: 6:00 pm Meeting Called to Order by Don Helms, Chair.

II. Approval of Minutes: Mike Lunsford made a motion to approve the minutes from April 4th meeting. Pat Meehan seconded the motion and the committee voted unanimous to approve April 04, 2007 minutes.

III. Large Tree Replacement

Bill Smith brought up the discussion of Diameter Breast Height with 4.5 feet being the standard. Discussion on whether 35% shading within 15 years was an adequate/inadequate percentage. Don Helms mentioned that Hilton Head had a lot of large maturing trees. David Grant explained that Hilton Head has one of the best Urban Forestry Programs in the country because of their large staff and large community involvement. Don Helms gave the committee homework to keep their eyes open for sites with large tree canopy.

David Grant passed out several handouts on pictorial examples of parking lots and percents of shading.

Sherry Clontz asked if 202 trees equaling 35% was reasonable.

Bill Smith mentioned that 35% shading will never be reached because some trees will die without being replaced. Replacement of trees is seldom enforced.

Don Helms suggested requiring so many trees to be replaced within a certain amount of time if damaged or die. He also asked whether if the committee could put wording in the ordinance that the town will hire a company to replant trees at businesses whose trees have been damaged/dyed and then bill the business.

David Grant stated normally if a tree is damaged or dies then the business has up 180 days to replace the tree.

Bill Smith brought to everyone's attention that unless parking lot trees are planted in a planting island we wouldn't want to require replanting in parking lots.

David Grant mentions that he never suggests retrofitting parking lots that don't contain planting islands.

There was discussion on trees per every so many parking spaces. Gary Vaughn and Pat Meehan agreed that they would rather preserve islands of large trees rather than a tree every so many parking spaces.

There was also discussion on the size of trees required to be replaced.

David Grant mentions that according to the grant program a 2" caliper is standard.

A brief discussion on permeable paving requirements.

Bill Smith suggested putting something in the ordinance about incentives for preserving natural areas/groups of trees.

David Grant mentioned that he would research incentives for the next meeting.

He also gave committee members a task to keep an eye out for how many crape myrtles and Bradford pear trees are within Indian Trail.

David Grant gave another homework assignment to review material he put together for the Town of Stallings before the next meeting. He stated that one incentive in some ordinances gives double shade credit for preserving natural areas/group of trees.

David Grant touched on Arboricultural Specifications the next topic the committee will be discussing. Specifications on pruning, fertilization, nursery plantings, tree save areas, grading, terracing, tree wells, etc. He also stated that he would prepare a packet of Arboricultural Specifications for the committee to review.

Discussion on Critical Root and Tree Protection Zones (drip lines).

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, May 2, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

Don Helms adjourned the committee and they voted unanimous for adjournment.

V. Adjourn