



**ALTOONA SHADE TREE COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of December 20, 2017**

*In attendance:* Ted Newkirk, *Chairperson*; Jeff Arpino, Paula Over, Nancy Fellabaum - *Shade Tree Commission*, William Elmendorf and Alan Sam, *Commission Arborists*; Lee Slusser-*Director*, Marilyn Morgan, *staff*

Ted Newkirk, Chairperson, called the meeting to order.

1. The August 16, 2017 minutes were reviewed and approved, vote by Paula Over, seconded by Nancy Fellabaum. Motion passed.
2. Public Comment – There were no public comments at the meeting.
3. Tuckahoe Park tree recommendation – Dr. Elmendorf and Mr. Sam stated, the large Oak tree should be removed as it is a hazard.
4. *Arborists summary - STC Ordinance & Manual*

Mr. Elmendorf, Arborist, introduced the State College Borough Shade Tree Plan. Not knowing what the *City of Altoona* wants exactly he hesitates to write a plan without some direction from the City. The City needs to take a look at the Goals and Objectives that they want to implement. Taking a look at the City itself and who will oversee the program and how will it be funded. Mr. Alan Sam, Arborist, commented on how the City of Pittsburgh broke their program out into manageable sections in order to implement an Ordinance. Using the State College Borough Plan they suggested that the Commission look at tree policies, planting policies, different species and what grows well for our area. There are brief narratives that make a point as to why watering is important. Why fertilization and trimming is important. The State College plan is more of a maintenance plan. Mr. Elmendorf is going to send the commission a copy of the Pittsburgh plan which is a more detailed plan of the Goals and Objectives, Strategies, Policies, and considerations that commissions run into. A long discussion ensued and it was decided that the commission would get together to try to put an ordinance together. Mr. Slusser is going to talk with Marla Marcinko, City Manager to see how far she wants to go with this project.

Adjournment – Motion made by Ted Newkirk, seconded by Jeff Arpino.

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Shade Tree Commission