

**MINUTES**  
Tree Conservation Commission  
Business Meeting  
Tuesday, April 16, 2024, 4:45 pm

**Topic:** Tree Conservation Commission Business Meeting

**Meeting ID:** Meeting ID: 975 4440 0144 or [this link](#)

**Dial In:** 301-715-8592, access code, 97544400144#

Register in advance for this meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/97544400144#success>

(Questions: call Kathy Evans, 404-330-6235)

**ATTENDING:** Commissioners Nabil Hammam, Sarah Boles, Marvin Greer, and Lawrence Richardson. Staff, Kathy Evans

**Minutes.** March 19 minutes approved.

1. **Arborist Division Staffing.** Arborist Plan Reviewer. Have hired for the 5<sup>th</sup> plan reviewer. Will be filled shortly, bringing back to full staff. Also close to filling position for Field Arborist, previously occupied by Greg Ihle who is no longer with the City.
2. **Urban Forestry Grant.** Received approval from US Forest Service 4/15, still working to finalize legislation to accept.
3. **Appeal Hearing.** Schedule. Only hearing for April (April 17, 2024, 6:30 pm). Nabil, Marvin, and Lawrence will attend.
4. **Quarterly Reports.** Reporting is being updated with interactive dashboard. Will be posted for public access when complete.
5. **Tree Ordinance update.**
  - Phase 2, Tree Ordinance Update meetings are scheduled every other week (Thursday mornings, 2 hours) through May.
    - *Initial stakeholder meeting (1/19/24).* Set ground rules. Group members should commit to attendance (and designate an alternate who is kept abreast of issues). Heard a presentation on Canopy analyses.
    - *Second stakeholder meeting (2/2/24).* Heard a presentation on Heat Vulnerability in Atlanta. Facilitator presented a list of issues identified stakeholder interviews (Sept-Jan):
      - What trees should we protect/enhance?
      - What trees can be removed?
      - What constitutes appropriate replacement of approved trees?
      - Who pays? How much?
      - How do we equitably distribute the costs and benefits of trees and tree preservation?
      - How do we facilitate development while protecting trees?
      - How do we improve tree canopy in a rapidly developing city?
    - *Third stakeholder meeting. 3/21/24.*
      - Presentation by Michael Kidd, Landscape Architect, outlining issues and challenges of ordinance.
      - Defining issues to address.
    - *Fourth stakeholder meeting. 4/4/24.*
      - Presentation by Elizabeth Williams, Architect, outlining issues and challenges of ordinance.
      - Defining issues to address.
    - Caucus meeting (City staff). 4/15/24.
      - Discussion of inch-for-inch replacement, public tree planting, linear planting, enforcement, DDH.
6. **New Business.** None.
7. **Old Business.** None.