

CENTERVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION  
WORK SESSION MEETING  
Tuesday, September 26, 1995

Mr. Stone called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

Attendance: Mr. Scot Stone, Chairman; Mr. Patrick Hansford; Mr. Jack Kostak; Mr. Arthur Foland; Mr. Stanley Swartz; Mr. Peter McMahon; Mr. James Durham (where noted). Also present: Mr. Alan Schwab, City Planner.

Mr. Stone introduced Mike Battaglia, chairman of the City Beautiful Commission, to members of the Planning Commission in attendance.

Mr. Battaglia discussed with the Planning Commission some of his observations and concerns about street tree plantings within the public right-of-way, and in a tree planting zone behind and adjacent to the public right-of-way. Mr. Battaglia recommended to the Planning Commission to give strong consideration to trying to create tree planting zones behind the right-of-way versus planting within the right-of-way because he feels the survival and health of trees, from his years of experience, are much better in that location.

The issue of liability with trees planted both within and behind the public right-of-way was discussed. The Planning Commission recommended that the City consult with the City Attorney on the legal issues involved in street plantings.

Mr. Battaglia briefly described the tree preservation ordinance experience of Springboro, Ohio. Mr. Battaglia indicated that he had hoped that Mr. Gary Sierschula, also a member of the City Beautiful Commission and a landscape architect with Woolpert Consultants, would have been able to attend this work session, but this was not possible.

Mr. Sierschula has been working with the City of Springboro and the Dayton Home Builders Association to draft a tree preservation ordinance for the City of Springboro.

Mr. Durham arrived at this time.

General discussion took place between Mr. Schwab and the Planning Commission about the issues that are dealt with commonly regarding tree preservation ordinances across the country. After some discussion of these elements commonly dealt with in tree preservation ordinances, the Planning Commission's general consensus was that there should be a balance in the tree preservation ordinance between the developers' rights to reasonable development his property and make his/her own determinations as to

the extent with which to preserve existing trees, and the interests of the community protected by City ordinances that would make specific requirements to be met involving tree preservation on private property.

The Planning Commission suggested that considerations be given to incentives, rewards and tradeoffs in the drafting of a tree preservation ordinance as inducements for a private property owner to preserve trees on their property. The Planning Commission asked that Mr. Battaglia and Mr. Sierschula work with the City Planning Staff and develop an outline for consideration by the Planning Commission in a Work Session in the near future.

There being no further discussion, Mr. Stone adjourned the Work Session.

*Stone 11/14/95*  
*Chairman*