

**Minutes Interlaken Shade Tree Commission
October 13, 2016**

Sunshine Law Read

**Roll Call Present: Dalton, Heinz, Hughes, Papp, Weaver
Insabella called in by phone**

Business:

- Bill Brash, the arborist who conducted our recent shade tree inventory, presented an overview of findings to members of the STC, Council Liaison Robert White and a public attendee.

Highlights of Presentation:

- Interlaken has a wonderful canopy, and because of the lack of overhead wires on many streets, there is better tree health. Pruning by wires is the single most detrimental problem with street trees.
 - 847 trees- 435 Large, 87 Med, and 282 Small
 - London Plane trees on Fernmere are probably around 80 yrs.
 - Sweet Gums around town, probably around 80-100 yrs.
 - Zelkovas and Flowering Cherries are doing very well
 - Ash Trees will have to be removed. They are not doing well and with the invasion of the Emerald Ash borer in the state, they will continue to decline. Unless very expensive methods are employed, removal is recommended.
 - Our forest in town is estimated at 4.96 million dollars
 - We have \$100,000 in benefits from our trees, and \$246 from each London Plane tree, making Fernmere a valuable street.
 - 124 vacancies for tree plantings were identified.
- Questions were asked and answered.
- Robert White will present findings to Council.

Meeting adjourned