

Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes

May 11, 2026

Commission Member Scott Nichols called the regular meeting to order at 8:30AM in the Council Meeting Room of the Borough Office at 14 Crafton Street. The pledge of allegiance was recited by all.

Attending were Commission Members Scott Nichols, Brian Kennedy, Brett Mengee, Tim Morey, Tyler Upham, Borough Manager Louis Rachiele, Administrative Assistant Tiffany Thomas, Mr. George Loughery, and Maddi Bordas who graduated from WASD and is currently a Senior at Lycoming College and an intern with State Parks.

Commission Member Brian Kennedy made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2026 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commission Member Brett Mengee and carried.

Public Comments on Agenda Items – None

Spring Planting Wrap Up – Commission Member Brian Kennedy gave update. Spring planting went better than expected. With help from the crew, Wendy Snyder, and the students planting trees was a success. Wendy Snyder was asked by Commission to do pictures of the process. Brian Kennedy would like to do a donation to Wendy for her services, after discussion it was settled on a \$150 donation to her. Commission Member Tyler Upham made a motion and it was seconded by Tim Morey and carried. As far as the Tree Pennsylvania Grant portion; trees planted need entered into Tree Keeper and the report for Grant is due May 15, 2026. George Loughery offered resident feedback on the tree planting. He stated that neighbors in the area were very happy with the work the Commission did from start to finish. They appreciated the follow up on the trees after they were planted. Brian Kennedy wants to recognize two WASD Seniors that helped with tree planting. Taylor Main and Vaughn Shannon. He would like to order special t-shirts for these kids.

DCNR Canopy Grant – Cost of removals were lower than expected. This will allow the Commission to do a second round of tree assessments. Commission Member Tyler Upham suggested a tree on Grant Street by the hospital, and Commission Member Tim Morey suggested one on Queen Street and Central Ave South of the Catholic Church. Commission Member Brian Kennedy mentioned that to be eligible the trees have to pose a significant risk and be large trees. He also mentioned that the Commission needs to come up with a binder of sorts showing tree location and name. Commission Member Tim Morey suggested that Commission request an example of plan showing what other towns are doing. Commission Member Tyler Upham wondered if the use of Google Earth, a mapping system, and creating an Excel spreadsheet would work for the Grant. Commission Member Brian Kennedy will confirm what definite information is expected.

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Fall Planting – Commission Member Brian Kennedy stated crew will start looking for spots. He will create a list to use for future planting that show where a tree needs planted or replaced. Committee questioned how many trees would be planted in the fall and the recommendation was 20. Commission Member Tyler Upham questioned if a Google form would work for the list.

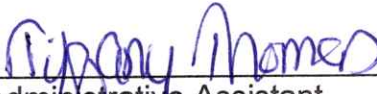
Hazard Tree Requests – No requests, however, a few trees were mentioned by Commission Members. On Walnut St near house across from UPMC, Oak tree that will be given a ribbon to mark that it needs assessed. On Main Street/West Ave there are two trees that the Commission has tried removing in years past with no agreement from property owners. The trees are mostly dead and need removed and replaced. Commission Member Brian Kennedy will draft a letter to homeowners about trees.

Commission Member Brett Mengee brought up the possibility of the Commission handling the removal of some trees. The trees would have to be on the smaller side and not located on busy streets. This would save the homeowner money and may make residents more receptive to having trees taken care of. He also stated the larger trees would still need handled by tree professionals. It was suggested that the Commission draft paperwork stating the dimension, height, and location of a tree that would be suitable for the Commission to take down on their own. This discussion was tabled until next meeting.

Discussion – Developing a Master Plan for Wellsboro's Urban Forest(Community Tree Plan) - Commission Member Brian Kennedy recommended a planning document showing Shade Tree Commission responsibility. This was tabled by Commission until further notice.

Adjourn – Commission Member Tim Morey made a motion to adjourn at 9:09AM. The motion was seconded by Commission Member Tyler Upham. The next Shade Tree Commission meeting is on June 8, 2026 @ 8:30AM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by


Administrative Assistant