

# Tree Conservation Commission Business Meeting Minutes

City of Atlanta  
City Hall  
Arborist Division, Suite 3800  
May 15, 2019

**Commissioners present:** Sarah Boles, Katherine Moore (via teleconference), Lawrence Richardson, Stephanie Stuckey, Elizabeth Ward

**Staff present:** Kathy Evans, TCC staff

1. **Minutes.** Review April business meeting minutes. All approved.
2. **Arborist Division update.**
  - Position for field arborist remains open.
  - Setback tree S.O.P. discussed. Proposed by Arborist Division: 50% or more of tree in setback would define setback tree. Questions: How accurate is survey? e.g. if setback tree is 12 inches dbh, is survey measurement accurate to 6 inches? Is the tree depicted to scale? Other similar/related policy issues: Boundary trees are considered to be on boundary if any part of tree crosses line. How does Parks determine whether tree is in r.o.w.? How would this information be used in ordinance? Is protection to be higher for trees in the setback?
3. **S.O.P. regarding deferrals.** Tree Commission reviewed and approved draft of S.O.P. on deferrals of decisions at appeal hearings, which should be based on the need for additional information. Ordinance allows up to 2 months for decision, but standard should be to address as early as possible and to set another hearing date if necessary.
4. **Brief Project updates.**

Canopy study – Imagery in place (since Sept/Oct 2018). Still awaiting finalization of contract for analysis/report, which is pending approval.
5. **Urban Ecology Framework.**
  - Public meetings on the tree ordinance draft outline are scheduled:
    - SOUTH, Monday, June 3, 6-8pm, 1332 Metropolitan Pkwy, SW 30310
    - WEST, Tuesday, June 4, 6-8pm, Church of the Master Presbyterian Church, 3400 MLK, Jr. Drive, 30331
    - EAST, Wednesday, June 5, 6-8pm, Neighborhood Church, 1561 McLendon Ave, NE, 30307
    - NORTH, Thursday, June 6, 6-8pm, North Trinity Presbyterian Church, 3003 Howell Mill Rd, NW, 30327
6. **Tree appeals.** Allocate time for individuals to review appeal packets.
7. **Old Business.**
  - Presentation last month by Tamaria Letang, COA Plan Review Specialist, Sr. Would like to schedule follow up at later date. Will submit questions.
  - Requested post-development stormwater presentation; not yet scheduled.
8. **New Business.**
  - **Two hearings** this month: May 15 and 22. Reviewed availability (two members expect to be available May 22; three tentative).