



BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

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Minutes of Regular Meeting Shrewsbury Shade Tree Commission (STC)

June 14, 2014

Municipal Hall, Sycamore Avenue, Shrewsbury, New Jersey

Present

Bill Gerth, Chairperson
Doug Keiper
Stuart Minis
Mary Russell
Ellen Preissler
Betsy Wattley

Absent

Mike De Nofa (Council Liaison)*
Steve Skop
Patrick Slattery

*Non-voting member

Chairman Gerth began the meeting at 8:30 a.m. by leading the Pledge of Allegiance and reading the Presiding Officer's statement in compliance with the P. L. 1975 c. 231, the Open Public Meetings Act. Mr. Gerth took roll call.

I. POSTING OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING

April's meeting minutes have been posted to the Borough's web-site. STC did not meet in May.

II. CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Mr. Gerth reported on his presentation to Borough Council (21 April) in celebration of Shrewsbury being certified as a Tree City USA for 16-years. He presented to Council a new Tree City USA flag to be flown at the Municipal Complex. He updated Council on the following STC highlights from 2013:
- Criteria for Tree City USA certification
 - Community Forestry Management Plan Annual Accomplishments
 - Four STC articles written for Borough Newsletter
 - New STC members in 2013
 - Attendance at CORE Training and NJ Shade Tree Federation Conference

- Resident consultations
- Landscape plan reviews
- Interactions with Monmouth County Shade Tree Commission
- B.** Mr. Gerth reported on his Arbor Day presentation to the Kindergarten class at Shrewsbury Borough School on April 24. He distributed Eastern White Pine seedlings to the students. He shared with STC the 33 hand drawn and written ‘thank you’ notes he received from the students.
- C.** Mr. Gerth reported receiving and responding to the following resident/business inquiries:
 - F. Doogen (10 Birch) - recommended alternate options to removing shade trees to grow grass.
 - S. Cullinane (80 W. End) - discussed options for dealing with established tree cracking new driveway
 - A. H. Rozza (28 Spruce) - visited site to review options for replacement tree(s) for one removed by DPW
 - B. Stein (821 Broad St) - provided concurrence on tree removal for business with approved site plan
 - P. Juska (53 Trafalgar) - diagnosed Ash Rust on trees in Paddington Farms
 - R. Pietrocolo (332 Princeton - The Ivy) - recommended tree care and replacement for conifers that have not survived transplanting

III. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. DPW Removal of Trees and Stumps** - STC acknowledged DPW for their effort in removing diseased/dying trees and grinding trees stumps in the Borough.
- B. Newsletter Articles** - Ms. Wattley submitted article titled ‘Planting Care for Shade Trees’ for the July issue of the Shrewsbury Community Newsletter. The next article is due September 10.
- C. Planting Idea** - Mr. Gerth proposed two planting ideas:
 - Eastern White Pine cluster along north side of Community Garden. STC discussed and advanced idea by suggesting that pink flowering dogwoods be planted between the pine clusters. STC endorsed this idea.
 - Franklinia Tree for south side of pathway leading to Gazebo at the Municipal Complex. STC endorsed this idea.
- D. Shrewsbury Borough Tree Ordinances Review** - STC reviewed tree related ordinances related to ‘Prohibited Acts to Trees Controlled by STC’. Ms. Wattley facilitated the review. STC will review tree related ordinances related to ‘Landscaping Requirements’ at their next meeting. Mr. Keiper will facilitate this review.
- E. STC Volunteer Brigade** - STC collectively donated 10 hours of time above and beyond the STC meeting. Overall, 13 shade trees at the Municipal Complex were trimmed/pruned and/or dug/weeded the drip-line perimeter. Agreed to limit equipment to hand tools only: no ladders, no powertools (i.e., chainsaws). A couple of pictures attached. A huge thanks to all who participated! It makes our community shine.

IV. CFMP STATUS, IMPLEMENTATION, & UPDATES: No updates

V. PLANNING/ZONING BOARD: No plans to review

VI. MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC: No public comment

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Preissler made a motion to adjourn meeting. Mr. Keiper seconded the motion.

VIII. NEXT MEETING - Saturday, July 12, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

Bill Gerth, Chairperson