



BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

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Minutes of Regular Meeting
Shrewsbury Shade Tree Commission (STC)
February 10, 2018
Municipal Hall, Sycamore Avenue, Shrewsbury, New Jersey

Present

Bill Gerth, Chairperson
Stuart Minis
Patrick Slattery
Betsy Wattley

Absent

Don Burden, Mayor*
Doug Keiper
Larry Lobaugh
Mary Russell

* Non-voting member (Council Liaison)

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

Minutes to STC's January 2018 meeting have been posted to the Borough's web-site.

II. CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Tree of Interest - none

B. Upcoming Conferences/Seminars:

- NJ Forestry Association Annual Meeting - March 17
- Monmouth County STC Spring Forum - March 28
- CORE Training - May 5 - Holly House (Rutgers)
- Joint STC (Rumson, Little Silver, Fair Haven, Shrewsbury, Atlantic Highlands)
Lecture - likely topic - Hands-on Pruning Demonstration - STC agreed to contribute up to \$150.

III. RESIDENT, BUSINESS, UTILITY INQUIRIES/ACTIONS - None

IV. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Conference/Seminar Debriefs:

- NJ Urban Community Forestry (NJUCF) Webinar - Annual Accomplishment Report (AAR) Format - January 18 - attended by B. Wattley (1 CEU awarded)
- NJUCF Webinar - CSIP Agreement and Implementation - January 24 - attended by W. Gerth (1 CEU awarded)

B. Tree City USA & Growth Award - applications due February 15.

- C. Community Forestry Annual Accomplishment Report (AAR)** - due February 15. Approved status 2017 - 'No'. STC and community earned 22.5 hours CEUs in 2017.
- D. 2018 Proposed Budget** - Proposed \$14,000. No feedback from Council's Finance Committee or Borough Administrator on authorization.
- E. Community Stewardship Incentive Program (CSIP) Grant**
- Council Resolution #2018-24 - Grant Agreement Identifier: FS18-021. Resolution passed by Council on January 16.
 - Grant Agreement signed by T. Seaman (Borough Administrator) on January 16 and returned to NJUCF.
 - Tree Planting and Maintenance Plan officially due February 15; STC likely to request extension given delay in receiving the grant agreement.
- F. Business Tree Planting Initiative**
- STC agreed to ask M. Russell to identify prospective businesses that would benefit from having trees planted as a first step in this initiative. Consider having L. Lobaugh take pictures as a second step. STC would work with Ms. Russell to develop tree-planting concepts as a future step.
- G. Borough Tree/Shrub Multi-year Maintenance Plan Development:**
- STC proposed that dead/declining trees along Route 35 between access road and Sycamore Avenue be removed and that remainder of trees be pruned of sprouts/suckers and dead limbs. Mr. Gerth will follow-up with the Borough Administrator to remind him of commitment made by DPW at end of 2017.
 - Mr. Gerth will continue to pursue having the Monmouth County Shade Tree Division prune the mature Sycamore Trees along Sycamore Avenue.
- H. STC Letters Related to Declining/Dead Trees in RoW:** nothing pending
- I. 2018 Tree Planting Wish List:**
- R. Mouyanar (15 Winding Brook Way) - x1-2 Crimson King. Mr. Keiper and Mr. Slattery will look into possible reasons why previously plantings failed and propose remediation steps and installation plan.
 - T. Menapace (74 Robinson Place) - x1 Red Maple
 - DPW Complex - 2 Thornless Honeylocust, 1 replacement for Hollywood Juniper

V. PLANNING/ZONING BOARD: STC reviewed updated landscape plans for the proposed ShopRite on Shrewsbury Avenue. STC requested that the tree protection plan be made more explicit, otherwise, STC thinks the landscape plans are excellent.

VI. MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC: Frank Doogan (10 Birch) inquired about removal of trees along perimeter of property. Resident concerned about safety of trees in a storm. STC suggested to Mr. Doogan that a Licensed Tree Expert (or equivalent) be consulted to have a safety assessment conducted. STC would support removal of trees found to be hazardous. STC informed Mr. Doogan that the Borough has a goal to maintain its tree canopy and would require replacement trees be planted anywhere on the property that at maturity would be similar in size to the removed trees.

VII. ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Wattley motioned, Mr. Slattery seconded, to adjourn meeting.

VIII. NEXT MEETING - Saturday, April 14, 2018 at 8:30 am

Bill Gerth, Chairperson