



BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

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Minutes of Regular Meeting
Shrewsbury Shade Tree Commission (STC)
August 12, 2017

Municipal Hall, Sycamore Avenue, Shrewsbury, New Jersey

Present

Don Burden, Mayor*
Bill Gerth, Chairperson
Doug Keiper
Larry Lobaugh
Stuart Minis
Mary Russell
Betsy Wattley

Absent

Patrick Slattery

* 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 July meeting have been posted to the Borough's web-site.

II. CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Tree of Merit this month is the Tuliptree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*). Mr. Gerth has a 3-4' specimen and is willing to donate to the Borough. STC suggested planting at Municipal Complex at the corner of Sycamore Avenue and Broad Street.
- B. NJ Forestry Council Meeting - September 14 (10 am) - Forestry Resource Education Center in Jackson, NJ. Mr. Gerth will try to attend to provide feedback on Sustainable Jersey and tree canopy goal and to advocate for better resources directed to invasive vine control.
- C. 2017 NJ State Conference "Treasure our Trees" - October 7 - Cook Campus Center - STC members encouraged to attend. STC will cover cost of registration.

III. RESIDENT, BUSINESS, UTILITY INQUIRIES/ACTIONS

- A. R. Soulle (82 White Road) - requested guidance on removal of tree butting up against house. Indicated it was okay to remove tree as it was planted too close to foundation.

IV. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Conference/Seminar Debriefs:** Lecture on Oak Trees on July 13 at the Forest Resource Education Center - 19 oaks are native to New Jersey. Recommend 'Field Guide to Native Oak Species of Eastern North American (USDA).
- B. Tree City USA Growth Award** - STC to consider achieving a growth award as a way to celebrate its 20th year of certification in 2018.
- C. 2017 Approved Budget:** Original budget \$14,000; expended \$278; committed \$9,744 (For-Shore \$5,244; Brummer's \$4,500; NJ Shade Tree \$150); remaining \$3,828.
- D. 2017 Grant Requests:**
- CSIP Grants - proposal for Reforestation/Tree planting grant (\$30,000) submitted May 15, 2017. Grant is budget neutral to the Borough. Awards anticipated end of July/early August.
- E. Borough Tree/Shrub Multi-year Maintenance Plan Development:**
- Invasive Vine Control - Mr. Gerth reviewed his clean up experience following invasive vine control applications by For-Shore Weed Control at his residence to help inform what will need done by the Borough at the Municipal Complex. STC agreed to set up meeting with For-Shore and Borough representatives to establish a line of site on clean up needs, timing, and actions.
- F. STC Letters Related to Declining/Dead Trees in RoW:** STC noted dead trees in island separating Hose Company and the Ski Barn. Unclear who maintains this island. STC noted dead Pin Oak at 90 Birch that should be removed. Mr. Gerth will send notification to resident requesting removal.
- G. 2017 Tree Planting Wish List:**
- J. Luckenbill (92 E End Ave) - x1-2 trees - Red Buckeye (other species)
 - G. Lucking (42 Dorchester) - x1-2 new trees - Willow Oak
 - S. Minis (35 Thomas Avenue) - x1 Khousa Dogwood
 - R. Procopio (23 E End Avenue) - x1 tricolor Beech
 - R. Mouyanar (15 Winding Brook Way) - x1-2 Crimson King, subject to figuring out what has caused decline of previous Crimson Kings planted in same location.

- V. PLANNING/ZONING BOARD:** World Jeep (Shrewsbury Avenue) - reviewed plans forwarded by the Borough Engineer (Mr. D. Cranmer) for landscape improvements along the North perimeter of the property. Plans called for 4 Pin Oaks along narrow island with parking/driveway on both sides and utility lines overhead. Suggested alternate tree species suitable for site. Applicant selected 6 Caroline Silver Bell trees.

- VI. MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC:** no public attendees

- VII. ADJOURNMENT:** Mr. Minis motioned, Ms. Russell seconded, to adjourn meeting.

- VIII. NEXT MEETING** - Saturday, September 9, 2017 at 8:30 am

Bill Gerth, Chairperson