



# BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY

## SHADE TREE COMMISSION

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Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Shrewsbury Shade Tree Commission (STC)  
April 12, 2014  
Municipal Hall, Sycamore Avenue, Shrewsbury, New Jersey

### Present

Mike De Nofa (Council Liaison)\*  
Bill Gerth, Chairperson  
Doug Keiper  
Mary Russell  
Ellen Preissler  
Betsy Wattley

### Absent

Stuart Minis  
Steve Skop  
Patrick Slattery

\*Non-voting member

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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**

March's meeting minutes have been posted to the Borough's web-site.

## **II. CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Mr. Gerth drew STC's attention to the flowering Okame Cherry trees at entrance to Municipal Complex. Blooms have improved over last year and are expected to be even better next year.
- B. Mr. Gerth announced that Shrewsbury has been recertified for the 16th straight year a Tree City USA community.
- C. Mr. Gerth distributed NJ Shade Tree Federation membership cards to STC members.
- D. Mr. Gerth received inquiry from Mr. C. Nelson (165 Park Avenue) regarding timeline for removal of dying White Ash in island across from his property. Earlier this tree had been targeted for removal. Inquiry lead to STC discussion about Inquiry lead to STC discussion about status of other trees needing removals in the Borough, stump grinding, and remediation/replanting of missing trees in the Park Avenue islands.
- E. Mr. Gerth presented bound copies of the Community Forestry Management Plan (CFMP) to members of STC that have joined since the plan was completed in 2011.

- F. Mr. Gerth announced that Saturday April 26 from 10 am to 12 pm will be Shrewsbury Earth Day Clean Up.
- G. Received request for two Sycamore Trees from Mr. Burden (215 Sycamore Ave) to replace trees removed due to disease/decay. STC agreed with request and will place trees on Spring Planting List. Mr. Gerth will visit residence to check out site and location for planting.
- H. Mr. Gerth received note from the Mayor on miscellaneous items: coordinate tree replacement at SBS, questioned whether STC knew of reasons for tree removal at Bank of America location at Sycamore Avenue and Shrewsbury Avenue, and that he (Mr. Burden) had called Mr. K. Thompson (Monmouth County Shade Tree, General Supervisor) to thank him for removal of tree debris along Sycamore Ave.
- I. Mr. Gerth received request via Mr. Minis for replacement tree (Blue Spruce) for 38 Thomas Avenue (Mihlon residence). Mr. Gerth will visit site to finalize plant selection.
- J. Mr. Gerth shared invitation for NJ 2014 Arbor Day Celebration. It will be at the Ronald Rogers Arboretum in West Windsor Township on Friday April 25 at 3:00 pm.

### **III. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. **Arbor Day Seedlings and Presentation - SBS Kindergarten Class** - Mr. Gerth informed STC that he will present Eastern White Pine tube seedlings to, and discuss shade trees with, the Kindergarten Class at SBS in celebration of Arbor Day on Thursday April 24 at approximately 12:40 pm. STC members are welcome to join him for the presentation.
- B. **Newsletter Articles** - Mr Gerth submitted article titled 'History of Arbor Day' for the April issue of the Shrewsbury Community Newsletter. Ms. Wattley will develop topic and article for the July issue (due June 10).
- C. **2014 Monmouth County Earth Day Summit** - Mr. Gerth attended this event on April 7 and shared his insights with STC. Audience at the summit was informed that Monmouth County Shade Tree can remove trees and grind stumps at a fraction of the cost of private contractors. Mr. Gerth shared this information DPW.
- D. **Shrewsbury Borough Tree Ordinances Review** - STC reviewed tree related ordinances related to 'Organization and Duties; Power and Authority'. Mr. Gerth facilitated the review.

STC will review tree related ordinances related to 'Prohibited Acts to Trees Controlled by STC' at their next meeting. Ms. Wattley will facilitate this review.

### **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** - May 10 meeting is cancelled.

Scheduled for Saturday, June 14, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

Bill Gerth, Chairperson