



BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

419 Sycamore Avenue
Shrewsbury, NJ 07702
Telephone 732-741-4200

Minutes of Regular Meeting
Shrewsbury Shade Tree Commission (STC)
May 11, 2019

Municipal Hall, Sycamore Avenue, Shrewsbury, New Jersey

Present

Bill Gerth, Chairperson
Jim Lemyre
Larry Lobaugh
Mary Russell
Betsy Wattley

Absent

Kim Doran Eulner*
Doug Keiper
Stuart Minis
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 April 2019 meeting have been posted to the Borough's web-site.

II. CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Tree of Interest - River Birch (*Betula nigra*) - common name alludes to ability to stabilize river banks
- B. Arbor Day Proclamation by Mayor/Council on April 15, 2019 at Council Meeting.
- C. Thank you letter from Mr. D. Burden to SBS Superintendent - Northern Red Oak
- D. NJ Shade Tree Federation - distributed membership cards, updated roster to be sent to Federation to ensure new STC members receive newsletter.
- E. Conferences/Seminars:
 - Michael Dirr Reception and Lecture: Trees You Never Knew Existed. June 4, 2019 at Jenkins Arboretum. Sponsored by the Pennsylvania Horticulture Society.
 - NJ Shade Tree Federation 94th Annual Conference - October 24-25, 2019 at Harrah's Atlantic City Waterfront Conference Center.

III. RESIDENT, BUSINESS, UTILITY INQUIRIES/ACTIONS

- R. Mounayar (15 Winding Brook Way) - one of two Crimson King thriving, the other appears not to have survived the winter.
- R. Victor (45 Rosewood) - Magnolia appears not to have survived winter.

- Shadowbrook (Obre Place) - site visit to review tree removal plans, two additional trees of significant size need removed, requested replacement trees, agreed to meet with Shadowbrook team and landscape architect.
- QuickChek (Shrewsbury Ave) - asked Borough Engineer (D. Cranmer) to check status of planting areas near box store, concerned that this could be overlooked given uniqueness of plan relative to typical QuickChek construction.

IV. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Conference/Seminar Debriefs:

- Tree Dedication - D. Burden - April 30 - White Oak tubelings were distributed to attending 5th graders.
- Arbor Day SBS Kindergarten Presentation - May 3 - White Oak tubelings were presented to 47 kindergarten students.
- Borough Council Presentation - May 6 - reviewed STC mission, membership and accomplishments. Provided council members with White Oak tubelings.
- Sharpening Pruning Tools - May 9 - Forestry Resource Education Center (FREC), Jackson, NJ. Simple home-made sharpening paddle illustrated for STC members.

B. Community Forestry Management Plant (CFMP): distributed goals and objectives, asked STC members to review and be prepared to discuss accomplishments to date and possible revisions to the 2021-2025 update at the June meeting.

C. Community Stewardship Incentive Program (CSIP) Grant

- Payment detail, expense documentation (invoices, disbursement vouchers, cancelled checks), and volunteer service documentation has been submitted to NJ Urban & Community Forestry (NJ UCF) to initiate reimbursement. Mr. T. Seaman (Chief Finance Office for Borough) complemented by NJ UCF for excellent job in organizing submission. Borough has meet match requirements. Payment voucher signed and returned to NJ UCF. Borough will receive \$27,000 up front and \$3,000 after final inspection.
- Flexi hoses purchased. Initial plan is to water once a week as needed and then twice weekly from June until August as needed.
- Crape Myrtle “Natchez” closest to Boro Hall in front of SHS struggling and will be monitored.
- Discussed timing of removing stakes and protective fabric on newly planted trees. Decided to keep stakes on trees until April/May 2020 and to remove protective fabric on trees. Consider re-installing fabric around Labor Day to fend off buck rubbing damage.

D. Borough Tree/Shrub Maintenance:

- Prairie Nursery - Delivery of Ironweed, Goldenrod and Milkweed anticipated week of May 12. STC members welcome to help with planting on Western perimeter of Gopher Field.
- Municipal Complex - inquired about revised scope/status of quotes to prune trees.
- Park Avenue - Met with Bartlett tree expert (D. Kniss), solicited quote for EAB treatments, suggested removing two of the White Ashes (one visible damage, one split), thinks remaining trees would survive excavation and repaving scheduled 2020. Suggested there are underground structural bridges that could be used to protect the tree roots. Inquire about meeting R. Neis had with municipal arborist-discussed options for remaining White Ashes given that road is schedule for replacement in 2020.

- M. Russell brought up the idea of community beautification, possibly starting a new committee, developing related ordinances and gold standards commercial properties.
- J. Lemyre suggested STC consider having a summer intern to help with tree inventory and light tree maintenance on municipal properties.

E. 2019 Tree Planting Wish List: TBD

- V. PLANNING/ZONING BOARD:** Maurice Schwartz & Sons (585 Shrewsbury Avenue) - reviewed landscape plans for car storage lot in back of property. Comments will be summarized and forward to L. Kelleher.
- VI. MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC:** None
- VII. ADJOURNMENT:** Ms. Wattley motioned, Ms. Russell seconded, to adjourn meeting.
- VIII. NEXT MEETING - Saturday, June 8, 2019 at 8:30 am.**

Bill Gerth, Chairperson