



Franklin Township Shade Tree Commission

Somerset County, New Jersey



Meeting agenda for March 23, 2023

1. **Call to order in accordance with the NJ Open Public Meeting Act** (aka the sunshine law)
NJSA 10:4-6(1973).
2. **Shade Tree Commission Membership Roll Call**
3. **Secretary's Report**
 - a. Approve February meeting minutes as emailed to Commission members.
4. **Treasurer's Report**
 - a. Review Township Financial Report (Review Only / Approval Not Required)
5. **First opening of meeting to the public**
6. **Old business / Updates:**
 - a. **Updates from committees and commissions:**
 - i. Environmental commission (AS)
 - ii. Open space advisory (ML)
 - iii. Sustainable jersey (ML / SM)
 - iv. Franklin Twp council – Mr. Vassanella
 - b. Franklin Twp U&CFM plan – request for assistance from FT with grant application
 - c. Franklin Twp tree maintenance plan – Coordinating with FTEC
 - d. I-tree canopy cover inventory updates –FTIT - i-Tree training available online
 - e. **Commission administration:**
 - i. Volunteer hours tracking – spreadsheet sent to members.
 - f. **Tree Maintenance and Project Updates:**
 - i. Hamilton street – communication with Exec Dir
 - g. **Public information / education / events / community outreach projects**
 - i. Arbor day 2023 – BoE update
 - ii. Big and heritage trees in franklin township
 - iii. Website updates
 1. Twp maintenance form now has tree down and dead tree categories.
 - iv. Franklin Times and NIXLE e-blasts (No changes)
 - v. Annual tree sale 2024 – New vendor contacted us.
 - h. **Other Initiatives / projects**
 - i. Landscape guidelines for development applications – next steps
 - ii. Hazardous Tree Maps / Inventory – planning
 - iii. Do not plant trees list – next steps / publication.
 - iv. Recommended trees list - next steps / publication.
 - v. CME hazardous tree assessments maps and inventory
7. **New business**
 - a. Development Application at 360-380 DeMott Lane clearing up to 8 acres of trees.
 - b. FT DPW request to add part-time tree inspector.
8. **Second opening of the meeting to the public**
9. **Dendrology & General Discussion Items**
10. **Adjourn**
 - a. Next meeting Thursday, April 27, 2023 – Day before Arbor Day