

Township of Franklin, Somerset County, N.J. - Shade Tree Commission

Meeting Minutes February 26, 2015

Present: Christopher Williams-Chair, Sara Malone-VC, Jeff Baumley, Jason Harkins, Carl Hauck, Robert Hudak, Carol Parker, Arnold Schmidt,

Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm

Approval of Minutes:

- January 2015 – A. Schmidt motioned, J. Baumley 2nd, minutes unanimously approved as amended.

Old Business

1. Tree Sale 2015: Tree sales continue to be received, 36% sold to date. All agreed to extend the order date to April 8, 2015.

Action Items: R. Hudak to revise order form for publishing. J. Harkins to coordinate website revisions.

2. Tree City Recertification:

- a. S. Malone/ C. Williams completed STC's accomplishment letter for 2014 and all required documents have been submitted and approved.

3. CFMP: Discussion of next steps in implementing the goals outlined in the CFMP including review of draft 2015 CFMP action plan.

Action Item: S. Malone will coordinate beginning the process of applying for a grant to fund a windshield survey to identify hazard trees within the Township.

4. Arbor Day Celebration: Discussion of the joint Arbor Day Event (4/25/15), STC with the Open Space Committee at the Negri-Nepote Native Grassland Preserve. The event will consist of volunteers planting approx. 50 native trees and shrubs.

Action Item: J. Baumley to provide C. Williams with pricing information for dogwood's and hollies. C. Williams to coordinate ordering of trees with C. Hauck.

5. Replacement STC Member: All agreed run an ad in the Franklin Times advertising for the open STC member spot.
6. Future Projects/Goals: On hold for March meeting.

New Business

1. Sept. 11 Tree Planting at new Franklin High School: Discussion regarding scheduling a continuation project for the planting of two Dawn redwoods (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*) along with the memorial plaque, as was originally completed at the other Franklin Schools.

Public Discussion

None Present

Dendrology

Discussion of winter interest trees

- Japanese Stewartia, *Stewartia pseudocamellia*, seed pods
- Dawn Redwood, *Metasequoia glyptostroboides*, unique cones
- Baldcypress, *Taxodium distichum*, form, persistent fruit and showy winter trunk
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Adjournment:

8:30 PM

C. Parker motioned, C. Williams, 2nd

Respectively Submitted,

Jason Harkins
Secretary