

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

Meeting Minutes September 24, 2015

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

Absent: Carl Hauck

Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm

Treasurer's Report: No Change.

Old Business

1. Shade Tree Commission (STC) Open Position: No update this month.
2. CFMP - Hazard Tree Identification Project: No update this month.
3. CFMP – Community Stewardship Incentive Program (CSIP) Grant Application: No update this month.
4. CEU Standings: STC members to provide CEU information to S. Malone for 2015 CEU's, due in December.
5. Proposed Tree Plantings
 - a. Arbor Day 2016
 - i. Franklin Township High School: C. Williams plans to attend January 2016 Board of Education meeting to discuss project for approval.
 - ii. Samson G. Smith School: No update this month.
 - b. Memorial Forest Plan Review: STC has not been provided landscape plan previously prepared for Memorial Forest.

Action Item: S. Malone to coordinate with C. Hauck to acquire landscape plan for review.
 - c. Hamilton Street Redevelopment: No update this month.
 - d. PSE&G Scenic Byway & Causeway Revegetation: No update this month.
6. Tree Planting and Maintenance Updates
 - a. JFK Blvd. Tree Replacement Program: C. Williams contacted C. Hauck who indicated the trees would be watered this week (w/e Sept. 25).
 - b. Arbor Day 2015/ Negri Nepote Tree Planting: Trees planted need to be watered.

Action Item: C. Williams to request weekly watering from C. Hauck for all STC tree planting projects as many of the trees planted are showing signs of stress.

- c. Middlebush Park Tree Planting:
 - i. Tree Island Planting: No update this month.
 - ii. 2015 Buffer Planting:
 - Action Item:** C. Williams to request status of buffer planting project at Middlebush Park that utilized Tree Fund.
 - d. Memorial Forest – zelkovas need straightening: No update this month.
 - e. Hazard Trees:
 - i. Wells Fargo Beech (Corner of Bennetts Lane and Rte. 27): No update this month.
 - ii. Dead Oaks (Amwell Rd., across from Stage House Tavern): No update this month.
7. Annual Tree Sale 2016: Bailey to provide final list of trees available in early November. A. Schmidt motioned to approve tree sale price of \$45 per tree, pending confirmation of final pricing by Bailey Nursery, C. Parker 2nd, and unanimous vote in favor.
- Action Item:** C. Parker to research cost for creating additional sign.
8. Emerald Ash Borer (EAB): General discussion of adding EAB Tab to STC website including links to Ohio State fact sheet, nj.gov EAB site, Rutgers EAB site with disclaimer.
- Action Item:** J. Harkins to develop draft layout for October meeting.
9. Franklin Day Festival Table: R. Hudak reported on success of STC presence at event. Event attended by R. Hudak and A. Schmidt. Table displayed four handouts (STC/Env. Commission). R. Hudak noted questions from festival attendees including “when to prune trees?”, “what to plant?”, and “best time to plant?”. Future discussion to be had of adding information regarding these questions to the website.

New Business

- 1. Hazard Trees:
 - a. 4222 Route 27, tree near roadway.

Public Discussion

No public present.

Dendrology

Tree Stresses/Insects – leaf spot, drought stress – leaf margins browning, scale, spider mites, boxwood leaf minor.

Adjournment:

8:35 PM

A. Schmidt motioned, C. Williams 2nd.

Respectively Submitted,

Jason Harkins

Secretary