

FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP SHADE TREE COMMISSION

March 1, 2017 Meeting - 7:00 PM
1st Floor Mayor's Conference Room 110

MINUTES

1. **Meeting Called to Order:** 7:09 pm Thom Ritchie
2. **Present-** Tara McQuade, Nancy Mac Neill, Lester Preston, Jeanne Paterson, Thom Ritchie, Greg Hanley
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

4. **Announcement of Open Public Meeting Act**

In accordance with the Open Public Meeting Law, (c231, P.L. 1975) this meeting was announced by posting a notice on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building reserved for that purpose, by mailing such notice to the offices of the official newspapers and the Township and filing such notice with the Township Clerk.

5. **Meeting Minutes:** February 1, 2017 were reviewed and discussed. Nancy Mac Neill made a motion to approve with the space present in her last name! Jeanne seconded and they were approved.
6. **Appointments** Greg Hanley was sworn in for his term as Shade Tree Commissioner for a 5 year term.
7. **Unfinished Business:**
 - a. iTree Inventory- Thom and Bill met at Rutgers with Dr. Grabowski and Pam Zippisi and then with Pete Valesi and Scott Higgins. The use of a small pickup can be used for the hiring of the seasonal employees for the tree inventory. Some details are being organized through Pete and Scott, and the ball should get rolling in the next few weeks to hire the Grad students from Rutgers.
 - b. Cincinnati Hall- review of meeting notes from site visit. Thom spoke about a sycamore and some concerns about a grade change that could affect its health. The few mature trees that are present would greatly enhance the site. Thom also discussed the trees with Tim White and the STC discussed how we would like to encourage DDR (owner of property) to save any trees worth saving.
8. **New Business:**
 - a. Arbor Day 2017-STC discussed locations and tree donations DPMA for Saturday celebration. The STC would like to ask Eddie Brock for a tree.
 - i. Lester will check with the Principal at Errikson about the Arbor Day Program.
 - ii. Thom will speak to Bill about the saplings for tree giveaway.
 - b. Shade Tree Monthly report was reviewed and discussed. The denied TRP for Jill Perez was spoken about.
 - c. The CSIP grant proposal was reviewed and the training session for student interns was of interest to several STC members.
 - d. Annual Accomplishment Report 2016 was submitted on time.
 - e. Action Plan for the Ash removal due to EAB needs to be developed. Pairing up with the County may help the Township cope with anticipated infestation, subsequent removal, and chipping of trees. Lester suggested that he ask Pete Valesi to speak with County Shade Tree to move forward.
9. **Good and Welfare-** Monmouth County Shade Tree Spring forum is a daytime event: 9- 1:30 at the Fire Academy, Rt. 33 Howell.
10. **Meeting Adjourned** 8:51 pm

Minutes recorded and submitted by Tara McQuade