

FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP SHADE TREE COMMISSION

June 7, 2017 Meeting - 7:30 PM

1st Floor Mayor's Conference Room 110

Meeting Minutes

1. **Meeting Called to Order:** 7:36 pm Thom Ritchie
2. **Present-** Tara McQuade, 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. **Guests: Paul Rinear** paul@freedomweb.net Aberdeen Township Environmental and Shade Tree Advisory Board, looking for ideas to train the board and would like a tour of the DPMA. We suggested the Georgian Court University Arboretum, the smart phone apps Leaf Snap or the Virginia Tech Tree ID.
6. **Meeting Minutes:** May 3, 2017 were reviewed and discussed. Jeanne made a motion to approve Greg seconded and they were approved. Mayor Preston is commended for his job with the minutes!

7. **Unfinished Business:**

- a. iTree Inventory- the inventory will begin on June 19th with one employee, the second will begin in July. Use of inventory for prediction of EAB is discussed. Local towns such as Colts Neck and Manalapan are showing signs of EAB. White ash may be only slightly more resistant to the issue.
 - i. The STC discussed how we could assist with the project. Bill Brash as the point person will communicate how we can collaborate.
- b. Arbor Day 2018- Purchase order to acquire tree and a local installer for future Arbor Days may be necessary. The resources need to be made available to plan and the responsibility needs to be shared, it has become more difficult in recent years.

8. **New Business:**

- a. Shade Tree Monthly report was reviewed and discussed. The property that was discussed at 61 Route 33 was appraised in 2005 needs a new appraisal to ascertain the value of heritage trees on the site. The information is antiquated and the submitted fee of \$2970 is significantly less than the original agreed amount of \$19,500. Inquiries are being made into this matter.

9. **Good and Welfare-** Saturday at Meadow Lakes in East Windsor is the Tree Climbing Competition.

10. **Meeting Adjourned** 8:48 pm

Minutes recorded and submitted by Tara McQuade