

FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP SHADE TREE COMMISSION
June 5, 2019 Meeting - 7:30 PM
1st Floor- Room 110

Meeting Minutes

1. **Meeting Called to Order:** 7:38 pm Thom Ritchie
2. **Present-** Tara McQuade, Jeanne Patterson, Thom Ritchie, Greg Hanley, Stacy Ehling
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Guests:** none

5. 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.

6. **Meeting Minutes:** May Minutes were approved unanimously

7. Unfinished Business:

- a. Parks- Ash risk assessment meeting has not been scheduled with Parks Department. Numerous offers have not been accepted and the STC has safety concerns. These trees have the potential to be hazardous and should be identified in our parks. We should remove this from future agendas since this is a parks issue and STC has heard nothing back.
- b. Cost Share (ad hock committee) and Shade Tree discussed, work on brochure
- c. Shade Tree Jurisdiction question- what control and oversight exists to ensure quality plantings are happening. Poor plant choices, invasive plants and low quality are still frequent issues for planning board plans. The STC would like to be involved in studying plans to make sure plantings are sustainable and beautiful. We want to participate and make a difference. There is a valuable body of knowledge available for free to the Township and it is frustrating to see the same mistakes being made over and over. Very defeating.
- d. Shade tree replacements on Stillwells not happening
- e. 4 Shade Trees at DPMA were replaced. Halesia and 3 Carpinus were replaced and they look good. Need watering regularly until established.
- i. Irrigation- per monthly report, was repaired at DPMA and new trees were watered
- f. Update on CTE change to LTE in ordinances, ANSI standards. Status unknown. Please advise on the changes that reflect legal documentation for the Township.
- g. Enforcement of Township Ordinances- code enforcement officer wanted for enforcing. It will save a lot of trees and enhance the town's beauty.

8. New Business:

- a. **Shade Tree Monthly Report-** reviewed and discussed
- b. Correspondence-Arbor Day Foundation
- c. 2020 Photo contest for students for Arbor Day 2020-Twenty years at Durand
 - i. Gear it towards biology or AP classes, the horticulture program, the Monmouth county vocational program and get more groups involved. It will be great to open the community up to the beauty of the Arboretum. Different age groups for contest, etc. Stacy will chair the committee and assemble an action plan.
 - ii. Perhaps the winning photo/s can be used on the new brochure. Time sensitive so we can make the deadline for printing the new brochure.

9. Good and Welfare: Jeanne is going to be the mother of the groom this month!!! Congratulations!

- a. Colonial Park in Somerset was lovely for the tree climbing competeiton
- b. Freehold Township Day- need a table to spread the STC message, poster, brochures....Stacy volunteered to head a table, make a logo and have shirts made

10. Meeting Adjourned 8:43