

Morristown Shade Tree Commission (STC20) Meeting Minutes Monthly Meeting

March 25, 2014

7:00 pm meeting, Room 201

Morristown Town Hall

Members present:

Chantal Diedrich, Secretary

Anne Bertucci

Kristin Ace

Louise Witt

Michael Rockland

Joe Torres

Members absent:

Tina Wahlstrom, Chair

Karl Roettger

Guest: Richard Wolowitz

I. Roll call

II. Statement of Compliance with NJ Open Public Meetings Act (Sunshine Law) made by Louise at 7:05.

III. Minutes: Motion was made by Louise to approve the minutes from the last two meetings. All approved.

IV. Tracy Park, Arbor Day: Last meeting the STC voted on a planting for Tracy Park. The group that cares for the park mentioned that they would like to have a dogwood instead of the redbud. After some discussion, Louise made a motion to stick to our original plan, which is a redbud because the three trees chosen all bloom at different times of the season. Michael seconded it. All voted 'aye'. **ACTION:** Kristin will email Kathleen Margiotta to invite the veterans, and a girl Scout Troop for the ceremony on April 26th 11:00am.

V. 268 South Street: Request for removal of 2 trees blocking occupants signage. Location is on a county road, in Morristown. Our recommendation is to elevate the trees and then the sign would be visible. The trees are healthy. **ACTION:** Kristin will reach out to Vij, the town attorney, to define our jurisdiction. The STC would like to have clarified jurisdiction for the county roads in Morristown.

VI. Spring Planting: A contract has been awarded to a Ascape Landscape and construction Co. from Blauvelt NY. (near Nyack) The town council will vote on the award tonight. Jeff Hartke and Rich W. will then meet with them about our first Spring Planting, and define expectations. Rich has to firm up exact

locations for the tree for Ford Park, and the elm tree for George's Island. Rich will contact Tina for clarification.

- VII. **Phase II Planting:** There have been 3 requests for trees from our posters and flyers. Rich is following up. **ACTION:** Louise will get a press release to Michael Rogers by this Friday, so that we can get the word out to residents who would like a tree on their town property.
- VIII. **Woodland Ave. (2&4),** There are two spots between the road and sidewalk that could use a tree in our second spring planting. **ACTION:** Rich will take a look and add to the spreadsheet. Also on Franklin Street and Elm, at the parking lot, there are two trees that were dying last year. Rich will also add to spreadsheet. Also, South Street near Woodland Ave., there seems to be room for a few trees. Rich will check out.
- IX. **Continuing Education:** The STC has to write up what class we have taken and send it in for our 8 hours of Continuing Education each year. We discussed that we would like a class on Tree Inventory Mechanics: how to identify tree defects, along with a crash course in tree identification. Rich could teach this class for us. **ACTION:** Rich will write the course summary. Louise made the motion to agree to this class for the STC. Kristin seconded the motion and we all voted yes. Class to happen this summer- date to be decided later.
- X. **Sidewalk Ordinance:** Joe Torres has previously worked on a sidewalk ordinance, and we need to revisit this issue. **ACTION:** We will move this up the agenda for the next meeting.
- XI. **Parking lot Ordinance:** Kristin would like to see an ordinance made in town that developers would have to put in a certain amount of trees etc. for any new parking lot construction. Louise recommended that Kristin work with the Environmental Commission on this issue also. We will discuss further.
- XII. **Festival Earth:** Festival Earth is in May. Rich wondered if we should have a presence –just handing out flyers. Louise motioned for a vote whether we want to have a table there or not. All voted no for this year, maybe for the fall festival in town. We have no literature yet, and would not have time to create something that soon.
- XIII. **Meeting Adjourned** at 8:30. Next meeting on Tuesday, April 8th.