

Morristown Shade Tree Commission (STC46) Meeting Minutes
Monthly Meeting

August 9, 2016

7:00 pm meeting, Room 201
Morristown Town Hall

Members present:

Kristin Ace, Chair
Karl Roettger
Candy Beagles
Deb Regan
Andree Jacobson
John Harris (arrived after meeting started)

Members absent:

Michael Rockland

Guests:

Rich Wolowicz

Roll call

1. **Statement of Compliance with NJ Open Public Meetings Act (Sunshine Law)** made by Kristin at 7 pm.
2. **Introduction of Andree to the STC Members:** STC members and Rich gave short bios of themselves, and Andree gave short bio of herself.
3. **Minutes:** Kristin moved for a vote to accept the July 12, 2016, meeting minutes. Karl seconded. All approved (Michael and John absent).
4. **Open Public Portion:** No public in attendance.
5. **Business District Rejuvenation:** Kristin discussed the Mayor's approval of the business district rejuvenation plan: tree fencing, tree well remediation, placement of Bio-char and tree planting. The planting schedule will start in the fall on South Street, followed by Speedwell, Morris, and Elm Street. Kristin met with Jillian who will work on finding the money in the budget outside of the \$30,000 Shade Tree Commission budget. **Action:** Kristin will walk South Street with Anthony maybe at the end of August to determine how many tree wells need to be remediated, how many dead trees need to be replaced and the possibility of moving wells with dead trees closer to the street.
6. **Arborist/ Forester's Report:** Rich discussed the Western Avenue homeowner who is required to compensate the town by planting 5 trees and the Lake Street homeowner who is required to compensate the town by planting 2 trees. Rich discussed the removal of the female

Gingko Tree at 31 Sherman Avenue. The homeowner has asked who is responsible for removing the tree. Kristin moved to vote that the town remove the Gingko tree contingent on the homeowner planting the 5 replacement trees first. Deb seconded. All voted yes (Michael absent). Karl discussed the Hornbeam trees planted in the parking lot on Coles Street. Rich discussed storm damage to town trees. Major damage occurred on Georgian, where an Oak tree came down (and the Verizon trucks working on the site damaged the other Oak tree directly across the street). Only 5 town trees were lost. John discussed that neighbors have asked who to contact about damage to town trees. Rich and Kristin said they should contact shadetree@townofmorristown.org. Rich discussed the Steakhouse business owner who wants to remove damaged trees in front of his property and replace them with trees. Rich asked him to present his request in writing to STC for consideration. Rich presented a map of town trees that he is working on.

7. **CSIP Grant:** Rich discussed the procedure to follow in order to obtain the grant money. The money is to plant trees in parks. Rich will get more information on the grant.

8. **Action Updates:** Rich discussed the protection of trees document, which he will finalize and present for the next meeting. Kristin discussed the door hang for new tree/water gators, which she will finalize and have printed to use in conjunction with the fall planting. Kristin discussed the compensation of trees ordinance. She had a meeting with Jillian and they discussed having a meeting with DPW to discuss how to work together better. Kristin discussed the information flyer for EAB and mulch volcanoes to distribute. Kristin moved to vote on approving the EAB/mulch volcano flyer with new contact information and a “Fall 2016” date inserted. All voted yes (Michael absent). Deb and Kristin discussed the Growth Award. **Action:** Karl will provide Deb with outline of topics covered with High School students, Rich will provide Deb with his PowerPoint presentation, and Kristin will provide Deb with a copy of the proclamation and Arbor Day article.

9. **CEU/Core Update:** Deb discussed how STC members can obtain reimbursement for CEU/Core training. She also discussed upcoming CEU and Core training in October in Atlantic City.

10. **Awareness:** Kristin discussed mulch volcano identification and possible removal by STC members. **Action:** Kristin will get more information. Kristin discussed ideas for the booth for the Fall Festival in September, including t-shirts with the STC tree and “We Speak for the Trees” slogan. **Action:** Deb will get prices for producing t-shirts and polo shirts in small, medium, large and extra large sizes. Kristin moved to vote to approve t-shirts with the tree design and the slogan “We Speak for the Trees” for STC members to wear at the Fall Festival booth. Deb seconded. All voted yes, except Karl. (Michael absent). Kristin discussed having a display demonstrating a mulch volcano and a donut. Kristin moved to approve a correct and incorrect mulch display for the STC table at the Fall Festival. Deb seconded. All voted yes. (Michael absent). Karl discussed his meeting with the Morristown Partnership, Michael Fabrizio and Jennifer Wehring. Karl discussed with them the STC plans for downtown rejuvenation, including the well remediation, BioChar and fencing around the tree wells. **Action:** Kristin will

write the remediation plan for STC review. **Action:** Kristin will send July STC meeting minutes to John.

12. **Recruitment of 2 more members:** Kristin discussed the need for 2 alternate members.

15. **Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.