

Morristown Shade Tree Commission (STC46) Meeting Minutes Monthly Meeting

February 9, 2016

7:00 pm meeting, Room 201

Morristown Town Hall

Members present:

Kristin Ace, Chair

Karl Roettger, Acting Vice-Chair

Michael Rockland

Deb Regan

Candy Beagles

John Harris, Secretary

Guests:

Rich Wolowicz, Town Arborist

Abby Gallow & Carolle Huber, Morristown Grow it Green

Roll call

1. **Statement of Compliance with NJ Open Public Meetings Act (Sunshine Law)** made by Kristin at 7 pm.

2. **Minutes:** Kristin moved for a vote to accept the January 12, 2016 and the Oct. 13, 2015, meeting minutes. Karl seconded. All approved. **Actions:** John Harris will send January & October meeting minutes to the town.

Open Public Portion:

a. Abby Gallo & Carolle Huber from Grow it Green Morristown spoke to the committee seeking the removal of an ash tree on Early St. in front of the Community Garden. Kristin moved to wait on voting until the March 8th meeting based on the EAB information session Rich Wolowicz will provide in two weeks. Karl seconded. All agreed.

b. 15 1/2 Kings Rd. - Homeowner has requested the removal of a tree planted in the fall due to its proximity to his garden. Kristin made a motion to not remove the tree (homeowner was given 3 notifications prior to the tree planting). Candy seconded. All agreed except Karl.

Selection of Vice-Chairman:

Joe Torres has resigned from the STC. Karl agreed to serve temporarily in this manner.

Documents:

- a. Kristin Ace made a motion to vote on a new document to assist with making motions to vote. Deb seconded - all voted yes.
- b. Kristin made a motion to approve the Tree Removal Application that Deb Regan created. Michael Rockland seconded - all voted yes.

Compensation for Tree Removal:

Commission discussed the current town ordinance that is in place that provides for a dedicated tree fund. Decision was made to re-address this issue at the March meeting to further discuss the oversight of the fund. Issues yet to be determined: how checks would potentially be received and by whom, how they would be relayed to the town for the fund.

Arborist Report

Rich Wolowicz provided an update on the Spring Planting: 80 - 120 trees will be planted in total broken up into 5-20 increments of different varieties. He will also add and fill water bags for these.

The number (2-3) and type of trees to be planted in front of Staples was discussed. Rich will take another look at this site and provide us with a recommendation.

Rich also provided an update that there is a tree in Burnham Park by the dam that likely needs to be removed.

Update on Arbor Day:

Karl provided an update on his outreach to Morristown High School. A meeting will take place on Thurs. Feb. 11, with Brian Young from the high school STEM group and members of his staff to further discuss our proposal to plant two trees on the school grounds. An update on this meeting will be provided at the March meeting.

Tree City USA:

Kristin Ace has volunteered to continue to be the representative for this.

Protection of Trees Document:

Rich provided an overview of a document used by other municipalities for the protection of trees. Such a document would allow for a set of guidelines to be used during construction, roadwork, etc. Rich will continue to work on this and provide the commission with an update in the March meeting.

CEU Update:

Deb Regan provided an update on upcoming opportunities for CEU credits. We have 5 CEU's from Kristin's January training. We will also receive 1 credit each for the training that Rich will conduct on EAB. CORE training will also most likely be available in April.

Porous Pavement Update:

Commission agreed to have a presentation on this at our March 8th meeting in order to gain a better understanding of what it offers for the protection of tree wells. The presentation will take a full hour and we need to vote on whether to bring this to the town as a solution for tree well protection. Karl made a motion to extend the March meeting - Deb seconded and all voted yes.

Meeting Adjourned