

## **Morristown Shade Tree Commission (STC) Meeting Minutes**

June 26, 2013

7-8:30 pm meeting, Room 201

### **Roll Call:**

Tina Wahlstrom, Chair

Michael Rockland

Karl Roettger

Kristin Ace

Chantal Diedrich

Louise Witt

Absent: Ann Bertuccii, Joe Torres, Silvia LeBlanc

### **I. Statement of Compliance with NJ Open Public Meetings Act**

7:05 Tina opened the meeting

### **II. Minutes**

Acceptance of May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting approved, June 11 minutes deferred until next regular meeting.

### **III. Arborist**

Joe Torres wrote a scope of work for a part-time arborist, from his work gathering information from other Shade Tree Commissions. We read the proposal and ammended it, then all voted to approve document. Tina wants to present it to Michael Rogers tomorrow, so he can do an RFP to hire an arborist.

Contract length: We voted to get a contract for 1 year, instead of 6 months.

### **IV. Tree Inventory - Status:**

Update: Michael Rogers is comfortable with 2 phases of our tree inventory work. We now have a proposals from Tree Conservancy, Davey Resource Group (they do Princeton's inventory work), and another proposal that Michael will get. He will then review proposals and hire someone.

**ACTION:** We would like to see some maps from the ARCGis program, so we can better understand the importance of the tree inventory and what it will do for Morristown. We will ask Silvia if she can bring some to the next meeting.

### **V. Planning Board:**

Karl attended the last Planning Board meeting and introduced himself as a representative of the STC, and read them our ordinance-the powers and duties of the STC. He received a brief applause.

### **VI: Issues:**

Peter Franklin wants to do a tribute -2 benches and a tree in Woodhull Park on Ford Avenue. They are asking approval from the STC. We will get more clarity for their request.

Tracey Veterans Park: We need more clarity on their proposed planting.

16 Tuxedo Drive: Dead tree. Karl will look at it and report back to STC.

George Washington Monument: Will replace 2 pink dogwoods with white ones, per plan. This should happen in October. Need to find a good place for the pink dogwoods to be re-planted.

Green Street & James Street: Kristin will look at trees, and see if we need an arborist recommendation. May be a public safety issue.

10 Park Place. Tree seems to be too close- Utility wants to put a transformer in, and they want to trim tree. Kristin will go and inspect.

31 Speedwell Avenue. Tree is lifting sidewalk- residents want sidewalk fixed. Arborist needs to inspect and recommend.

Farragut and Macculloch: Arborist needs to recommend what to do with trees.

21 Franklin Place: Re-laying slate sidewalk, split is in tree. Picture looks like it is a natural split. Kristin will look at it. Need arborist's recommendation.

5 Rosemelt: Resident requesting tree trimming and has a lifted sidewalk issue. Karl will observe and report back.

158 Washington Street: DPW needs to trim dangerous dead limb. Karl looked at it and agreed it needs to be removed.

#### **VII. Letter to DPW:**

Kristin and Louise composed letter about trimming practices and we voted to approve it. All present approved, and letter will go to Jeff Hartke, Michael Rogers and Mayor Tim Dougherty.

#### **VIII. Town Hall parking lot:**

Row of evergreen trees- 2 arborvites need to be replaced to the specified trees from the original plan. It now appears that all trees are slated for removal, instead of just replacing 2 arborvites. We will send an e-mail to Jeff Hartke to remove stakes, and refrain from removing trees til further notice.

ACTION: Chantal will find out what type of tree should go in and Tina will write email.

Meeting adjourned 9:00. Next meeting: July 9. Kristin will take meeting minutes.