

Date: January 8th 2020

7 pm

Room 201/ Town Hall

1. Roll Call:

In attendance

- Kristin Ace: Chair/Secretary
- Susan Landau
- Deb Regan: Vice Chair
- Michael Rockland
- Rich Wolowicz: Arborist
- Sandi Mayer – Council Liaison

Absent

- Robert Norkin

2. Statement of compliance with NJ Open Public Meetings Act (Sunshine Law) Acknowledged

3. Review of Minutes

December minutes approved

4. Open Public Portion (limited to 5 minutes per individual)

Guest:

Wynn timer-Fred Victor Hinds

ANJEC Environmental Commission

wvhinds@anjec.org

973.539.7547

Ms. Hinds attended our meeting to see how our commission works as Newark is considering establishing a shade tree commission. Kristin answered all of her questions at the end of the meeting and offered that we will help her in any way that she may need moving forward.

5. Arborist Report

Morristown

December 2019 Forester's Report

Contract Work

- Rich Tree Service from South Plainfield was the low bidder for the next phase of systematic trimming. The work was awarded to that vendor and work is expected to start on the week of January 13, 2020.
- A landscape company from Andover was low bidder for the planting contract of 27 trees. Based on the weather, planting will probably occur in late winter, early spring.

Miscellaneous Items:

- Exchanged numerous emails with the Peck School’s landscaper re: philosophy of planting trees.
- Looked at deer damage at Pocahontas Park – I installed tree protection devices on the tree trunks.
- Investigated trees which were removed by the town’s tree crew – they were ash trees.
- Phone calls to coordinate schedule with Keith from Rich Tree Service.

Field Work:

Location	Complaint	Findings	Status
Opp. 320 South St	Caller concerned about tree falling	Trees looked fine; it was hard to determine which one was the concern.	Closed
Water St Island	Cavity in tree	Yellowwood with large cavity, tree will have to be removed in the future.	Pending

*scheduling park work with STC

PENDING – we will reassign parks in February and pick two to focus on

6. Resident tree issues

a. Trees at Town Hall entrance

There are 5 Redbud trees (1 burgundy /4 light green) and one self-planted Callery Pear. It seems that all but the front two are dying and need to be removed - *PENDING*

b. Leaning trees on Hill Street – *Rich sent Joel a reminder*

c. 47 Lake Road – illegal tree removal – *resident will remove the shrubs that he planted and put a tree in their place to replace the one he removed. Rich will give him a few species that will work in that spot*

7. EAB

a. Ash Tree Removal

1. How many Ash left on streets? 10

ACTION:

Kristin will reach out to Jillian, the Mayor and Bob Iannaccone regarding Spring Street and Tiffany Road because there will need to be announcements made to the public

2. Completion date? *Tree Crew is moving forward*

3. How many left in the parks – 124 – *Rich will tag the ones that are a danger to residents and then give the go ahead for removal (only after all street Ash are removed)*

4. Logging for “historic” Burnham Park Ash – *STC will wait to get more info on this when we hear back from the Burnham Park Association on whether they would like to use the Ash for BPA purposes within the park*

8. Partnerships

a. Footes Pond Strike Team

ACTION:

Susan will place two more signs to explain the meadow planting will be placed and in the spring, prior to mowing. A physical marker of the grass/meadow border will be placed.

b. Arbor Day Foundation

Tree seedling project

*Pick up seedlings-Susan will pick up the seedlings on 4.23/ 9-2 /1 Knoll Drive, Lake Hiawatha

*Distribution-The STC will have a table on 4.25/9:00AM in Town Hall parking lot during the Town clean-up day

ACTION:

Kristin will check with Kathleen Margiotta what the start time of the Town Cleanup is

c. Edgewood and Crestwood

Susan and Sandi will meet to discuss the best native shrubs to replace the invasive species at the top of the hill of this area that the town owns. It is meant to remain wild but we want it to be a healthy wild environment.

ACTION:

Susan will let Kristin know what shrubs were selected

d. HQ Plaza Renovation

Kristin and Rich have a phone conference with Brian McLouglin & Christine Rothermel Thursday 1.9.20 to discuss the tree placement and shrub species.

ACTION:

Kristin will call Susan to go over the species and see if replacements are needed or suggested to ensure the shrubs best support our native environment

9. Awareness

a. Tree Identification book

PENDING: Rich will give Kristin the addresses

b. How to identify a hazard tree

The article was sent to Morristown Green.com and the Morristown Partnership for publication

c. Spotted Lantern Fly

ACTION - PENDING:

Kristin will discuss with Rich Wolowicz the removal of the Ailanthus in Pocahontas Park.

Kristin will discuss the Ailanthus removals in Morristown Parks with Jillian Barrick.

10. Grants

a. Green Communities Grant

Kristin and Rich will meet to go over all the notes that the STC created for the creation of our new CFMP so that we are in compliance with the Green Communities Grant.

b. TD Green Space Grant 2020

We couldn't find an area that fit the criteria for this particular grant.

ACTION:

Kristin will reach out to Katherine Kapura & Jillian Barrick to let them know

11. Ordinance

a. Protection of Tree

We have been asked to review and simplify the ordinance.

ACTION:

Deb will take the original ordinance on the town's website and bring a revision to the STC for review and discussion in February

12. Biochar/Flexipave 2020

ACTION:

Kristin will add 20 more wells to the list of 40 to ensure the best price for the next round and then send that to Anthony Devizio for his input and approval.

13. General Business

*Deb Regan was voted in as Vice Chair unanimously

*Growth Award

The STC discussed the items to post to receive our Growth Award for 2019

*Goals 2020

Kristin Ace

*would like the STC to work with our Tree Crew within the parks to remove climbing vines, free trees from fences, prune and clean up the tree canopy

Susan Landau

*Will continue to learn more about the commission

*Would like to learn more about our tree canopy from our tree inventory

*Would like us to continue to plant trees that encourage insect and bird populations to increase

Deb Regan

*education – would like to encourage our DPW & Tree Crew to have a deeper understanding of what the STC does and become more educated on proper tree care

*beautification and diversity – would like to see more diversity of trees with flowers and fall colors that brighten up our town

*quantity – would like us to plant 1000 trees

*safety – would like to see better sidewalk/tree root solutions

Michael Rockland

*Would like to see trees added at the end of Miller Road where it is completely void of trees on the public right of way

*Will continue to seek a tree planting along the Masons building on Oak Street

New Business:

Dep Seedling gift of Legacy Salem Oak

STC all agreed that we wanted the seedling and a suggestion was made to have it in a hothouse for a year to let it get bigger and stronger before planting.

ACTION:

Kristin to request the seedling from the Admin/Mayors office

ACTION:

Rich to call Cerbo's Nursery to see if they would be willing to care for our seedling for a year

PENDING

The STC would like to see trees in the courtyard of the new parking lot proposed by the Parking Authority for the space behind the Post Office.

ACTION:

Kristin and Susan will attend the Planning Board meeting when the project is presented to discuss our desires.

Kristin will reach out to Councilman Iannaccone to discuss his help on the issue.

Adjourn 9:30pm