

Date: December 10th, 2019

7 pm

Room 201/ Town Hall

1. Roll Call:

In attendance

- Kristin Ace: Chair/Secretary
- Susan Landau
- Sandi Mayer
- Robert Norkin
- Michael Rockland

Absent

- Deb Regan: Vice Chair
- Rich Wolowicz: Arborist

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

3. Review of Minutes

November minutes approved

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

5. Arborist Report

**Forester's Report
November 2019**

Planting

- Planting contract was advertised, bids were opened, and the contract awarded. The contractor will be contacted shortly to discuss plans.

Trimming

- Trimming contract was also advertised, bids were opened, and the contract awarded. The contractor will be contacted shortly to discuss timing.

Miscellaneous

- Started to remove tree stakes and gator bags throughout town (approximately 25% of the Town has been patrolled).
- Met with George Swetin from ACRT, who was doing the pre-planning work for JCP&L's upcoming line clearance work. He wanted to remove some trees that he felt were a danger. I only agreed to 2 semi dead trees by Foote's Pond.
- Flexi-Pave sites were completed with the re-leveling of 36 pits.

Field Inspections

| Address | Complaint | Findings | Status |
|---------------|------------|---------------------------------|--------|
| 21 Sussex Ave | Tree limbs | Oak tree(s) in parking lot need | Closed |

| | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------|
| | drooping and drooping in parking lot | trimming. Was referred to Parking Authority. | |
| 33 Cutler | Trim request | Area was trimmed last year, do not see much work to do, but there is one low limb that should probably be removed | Pending |
| 50 Macculloch | Sick tree | Declining red maple, should be removed | Pending |
| 17 Speedwell Pl | Check tree | Nor maple 20" cavity and fungus growth, added to removal list | Pending |
| 23 Speedwell Pl | Check tree | Red maple 14" – split down the middle; added to removal list | Pending |
| 29 Speedwell Pl | Check tree | Norway maple 16" root rot and decay; added to removal list | Pending |

*scheduling park work with STC

PENDING – to plan a date at January meeting

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 - *Rich will inspect*

b. Leaning trees on Hill Street – *Rich will reach out to Joel to straighten before the ground freezes*

c. 47 Lake Road – illegal tree removal – resident must replace it with one 2 ½-3 inch caliber tree valued at \$400.00. Because they have already planted the area we would replace it in, we require a check for the Shade Tree Fund.

PENDING – Kristin will discuss with Jillian Barrick how to move forward.

7. EAB

a. Ash Tree Removal

1. How many Ash left on streets? *28 per the Ash Tree list from DPW*

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

3. How many left in the parks – *124* – *Rich will give the go ahead for removal only after all street Ash are removed*

4. Logging for “historic” Burnham Park Ash

VOTE:

The STC voted unanimously to look into the possibility of logging the “historic” Burnham Park Ash for tables (etc) and planks.

ACTION:

Kristin will discuss this with Jillian Barrick and then the STC will find out if there is interest in the community to have pieces of the Ash available for sentimental/historic reasons.

8. Partnerships

a. Footes Pond Strike Team

Friends of Foote's Pond Wood continue to work on the approved winter plan for invasive control. "De-vining" trees and pollinator meadow preparation are top of the agenda. 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

VOTE:

The STC voted unanimously to apply for 250-300 tree seedlings to distribute in the spring of 2020. The distribution date will be determined once we find out which the seedling pick up date.

Our ideas of how to distribute are:

*at the STC Arbor Day event

*at the Town clean up day

*at the Burnham Park Arbor Day event

9. Awareness

a. Tree Identification book

PENDING: Rich will give Kristin the addresses when the fall planting is done

b. How to identify a hazard tree

APPROVED: The STC has concerns about the effectiveness of the report a concern aspect of the Morristown website and would like further clarification on who takes the reports and how it is handled from there before we publish our article.

ACTION:

Kristin will reach out to Kristen Wedderburn to get the information

c. Spotted Lantern Fly (SLF)

The SLF is now in NJ. It is thought that the Ailanthus Tree is vital to the SLF's proper development. NJ Dept. of Agriculture encourages removal of Ailanthus and this must be done properly to avoid vigorous regrowth. Additionally it is possible to leave one "target" male tree in an area and treat it with insecticide to kill the instar stages of SLF that are attracted to Ailanthus.

ACTION:

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. **TD Bank Grant**

TD Bank needed one more video made with English subtitles for the hearing impaired. Jillian Barrick approved the \$250.00 to be taken out of the STC budget so that we could provide them with what they needed. The project is now complete and Morristown has received the full \$20,000 for our work.

b. **Green Communities Grant**

STC hours are tallied thus far and we will continue to keep track of what we do to create the new CFMP.

11. Ordinance

a. Invasive Species

ACTION:

Kristin will reach out to Margot Kaye, the Town Clerk, to get a copy of the new ordinance

b. Protection of Tree

The Town Attorney has the ordinance for review

12. Biochar/Flexipave 2019

The well amendment went without any issues – 28 wells were completed.

13. 2019 Reports

a. CEU

8 participates with 43 credits

b. Growth Award

Kristin will figure out the Growth Award points for the year and report to the STC in January

14. General Business

*Kristin Ace was elected as Chairperson & Secretary unanimously

*CEU – Michael Rockland

*Growth Award – Susan Landau

*Actions – Robert Norkin

*We all agreed to look for new STC members. Kristin will reach out to Mark Manning per Mayor Dougherty to see if we can have a junior or senior student on the STC each year.

*Each STC member will bring in one idea in January for what they would like us to focus on for 2020.

New Business:

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 9:20pm