

Date: December 11th, 2018

7 pm

Room 201/ Town Hall

1. Roll Call:

In attendance

- Kristin Ace: Chair/Secretary
- JoAnn Casadevall
- Sandi Mayer
- Bob Norkin
- Monica Orecchio
- Michael Rockland
- Rich Wolowicz: Arborist

Absent

- Deb Regan: Vice Chair

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

3. Review of Minutes

November minutes approved

4. Open Public Portion

Jennifer Wehring of the Morristown Partnership joined us to discuss a possible way to allow business owners to decorate the trees in front of their buildings for the holidays. If there is no way to allow it, she would like a formal statement to pass out to the businesses.

5. Vote for Officers

- a. Chairperson – Kristin Ace
- b. Vice Chairperson – Deb Regan
- c. Secretary – Kristin Ace (for now)

6. Meeting Protocols

While the STC decided that bylaws were not necessary at this time, Kristin outlined the expectations of how meetings will run for the relatively new commissioners and a refresher for the more seasoned ones -

*We do not discuss personal matters in front of residents. If a resident is in the room to present then the STC must maintain a professional stature by quietly preparing for the meeting to begin.

*We do not make blanket statements that cannot be backed up by facts.

*We comment only on the tree or tree situation that a resident brings forward.

7. Arborist Report

Forester's Report

**Town of Morristown
November 2018**

SYSTEMATIC TRIMMING

- Attended a pre-job start meeting to review specs and procedures.
- Ken's Tree Care started the work, so far, he is approximately 50% complete.

FLEXI-PAVE & BIOCHAR PROJECT

- Job has been completed. Some minor issues to be worked out with the contractor (such as footprints and not changing the material at the base of the tree).
- Attended a pre-start meeting, updated addresses.

FIELD INSPECTIONS/OBSERVATIONS

ADDRESS	COMPLAINT	OBSERVATIONS	ACTION
6 Paula	Dead new tree	Will replace in spring	Added to spreadsheet
11 Condict	Wants trim	Will be trimmed systematically during this contract	Completed
325 South St	Trim request	Need to verify as to jurisdiction	Completed
44 Elm St	Broken limb	Sent to DPW	Completed
18 Maxwell Dr	Tree planting request	No room for tree	Closed
32 Sand Hill	Tree Fell	Fell from township park	Closed
Lidgerwood Park	Split oak by playground	Will be removed	Pending

Field Work

a. 300+ tree trim

Ken's Tree Care is doing a good job and they are also leaving door hangers letting the residents know that they will be in the area. Rich will continue to monitor their progress.

b. GIGM - Grow it Green Morristown Community Garden

Tree was removed 12.12. Rich Wolowicz will need to have a bigger stump grinder to get deeper into the pit. He is setting that process in motion.

c. Stump removal

The Tree Crew is getting them done in between some hazard tree removal work that takes precedence.

d. Ward Reports

Rich asked the STC to have all the pages updated to the discussed proper format as he will begin using the reports for tree placement. If there are questions about the format, Kristin directed the STC to her or Bob's page.

8. Resident tree issues

- a. 1 Farragut
Vote postponed
- b. Kellogg Club

The STC voted to work in partnership with the Kellogg Club in removing and replacing trees in front of their property that are a danger to the overhanging wires.

VOTE:

Kristin recused
JoAnn no
Sandi yes
Bob yes
Monica yes
Michael recused

ACTION: Kristin will reach out to Jim Bednarz and discuss the ideas that the STC has on how best to institute both parties' ideas

- c. 20 Colles Avenue

Status unchanged: Kristin is still waiting to hear from Jillian Barrick and Vij Pawar on what action to take against the residents who illegally trimmed the public trees in front of their home

9. Lights On Trees

Braunschweiger Jewelers reached out to Kristin to ask if they could work with the STC to create a way for businesses to put lights on the trees in front of stores in the business district. The STC and Jennifer Wehring discussed possibilities at length. The STC will come up with ideas to present in January. We will have a vote well before the next holiday season arrives. If we vote to find a way to allow them we will then bring them to Jennifer Wehring to see if she would like to institute the idea that we feel is the best solution. Kristin and Monica both feel that the ordinance should be followed to the letter and that no lights or decorations should be allowed on public trees.

10. Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

Removal schedule yet to be determined

11. Business District Tree Wells

Phase Two is now complete. The project was completed with no major issues. There are two wells on Market Street that pedestrians walked in while still curing so there are large footprints in the flexipave. On Speedwell Avenue, some of the mature tree wells (about 10) have the flexipave

going straight up the trunk of the tree instead of the crumbled mixture around the base as with the smaller trees.

ACTION: *completed 12.14* - Kristin will reach out to Waters and Bugbee to discuss how to remediate the footprints and understand about the 10 tree wells.

The STC is still waiting for the mulch on the open 4 wells as the STC has no control over the dpw schedule

12. Spring Street Tree Removal

The STC was called to look into the clear cutting of the embankment on Spring Street behind the old automotive shop.

Kristin called James Campbell, Phil Abrams, and Fritz Reuss to get a full story. She will meet with James on Friday 12.14. She will bring her findings to the STC January meeting.

The STC and Fritz Reuss believe that an updated private tree removal needs to be put in place with the Town Arborist in charge of evaluating tree removal. Also, it is felt that when a tree is removed it must be given back to the town in some way.

ACTION: *completed 12.13* - Rich Wolowicz is going to send Kristin a copy of the Hanover Township private tree removal ordinance to glean from.

ACTION: *completed 12.16* - Kristin will send it to the STC for discussion.

13. Seedling Distribution by Division of Parks and Forestry

The STC voted not to order any seedlings at this time. We would like to have an Arbor Day plan in place so that are better prepared for seedlings. Rich Wolowicz believes that we can order seedlings closer to our Arbor Day event.

Michael Rockland was the only member who voted to order the seedlings now.

14. Grants

a. Green Communities for CFMP (community forestry management plan)

Kristin applied for this grant of \$3000.00 with an “in kind” match of the STC volunteer hours. We should hear in January.

15. Awareness

a. Tree Identification Booklet

Kristin worked on the format and got it to a place that was uniform and that we are now able to add the addresses of where certain trees are in our town. The plan is to have this up on the town website in correlation with our Arbor Day announcement.

ACTION: Rich Wolowicz will provide tree addresses

b. Announcement Flyers

The STC will send out the updated emerald ash borer, tree mulch flyer the DPW recycle calendar

16. Tree City USA Growth Award

Kristin sent the STC a copy of the categories for the Growth Award to become familiar with. There was a brief discussion of what this is and how we can all become involved. In January, someone will take the responsibility of gathering Growth Award ideas and keeping us apprised of what needs to be done in each year to accomplish the Growth Award.

17. General Business

- a. Team Monday – tabled
- b. STC tablecloth and amenities

ACTION: Kristin will meet with Jillian for approval. We still have money left in our budget

- c. Bamboo Info - tabled
- d. Budget - tabled

New Business:

Adjourn 9:20pm