

DATE: February 13, 2018

7 pm

Room 201/ Town Hall

1. Roll Call

In attendance:

- Kristin Ace, Chair/Secretary
- Deb Regan, Vice Chair
- Michael Rockland

Absent:

- Judy Prendergast
- Bob Norkin
- Richard Wolowicz, Town Arborist

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

Chair Kristin Ace cited compliance with the O.P.M.A.

3. Review of Minutes: January

January minutes were approved for posting

4. Public

Cindy Marvin of Morris Township attended to garner information about creating a Shade Tree Commission in her town

Agenda Item 5: Arborist Report

- a. Masonic Temple – Rich Wolowicz looked at the front of the building on Maple and believes that there is plenty of room to plant trees on the median strip. Michael Rockland is still waiting to meet with someone regarding trees on the side of the building on Oak Street. He will let them know that we are planning and are within our rights to plant and hoping that they will cooperate. We will give them choices of trees.
- b. Tree well tunnel idea – TABLED
- c. 19 Clinton – the complaint was for tree roots in the sewer line going into the building and causing backup issues. Rich W spoke with the owner of the building and told him to use copper sulfate in his drains to kill the root of the tree that is causing the issue until he can look at the property. However, the issue of a possible broken sewer pipe is on the owner to assess and fix. Rich W will check to property to find the best solution and report back in March.
- d. 21 Miller – the complaint was for a tree infestation. Rich W looked at the tree and found that it is a Zelkova which do not typically get infested. He found some broken branches and the healthy green algae growing and alerted the resident that there are no issues to be concerned of.

January 2018 Forester's Report

Miscellaneous Items:

- Looked at possible planting sites on Washington St between Burnham Parkway and Phoenix for streetscape work. Met with Kristin to discuss planting sites at Whole Foods site on Washington St.
- Gathered and reviewed tree related expenditures from 2017.
- Field checked locations where ash trees were removed and selected replacement trees (about 80% completed).

Field Work:

Location	Complaint	Findings	Status
141 Washington Ave	Stake broke	DPW will re-stake (tree loose)	Pending
68 James St	Owner question	Spoke to owner re: her tree	Closed
46 Macculloch	Cavity in tree	Pear tree has cavity, but tree will be alright for the time being	Closed
78 Western Ave	Declining tree	Sugar maple 36". Tree is declining, has a split and major deadwood. Tree should be removed. It is 80% on Town R-O-W.	Pending

Agenda Item 6: EAB

- a. Ash Tree Removals – Rich will have the full list of removals and addresses in March – it is 80% done and he is waiting for the rest of the information from Mr. Fernicola
- b. Resident letters – again, still waiting for the edits/approval from Administration

We will replace all Ash Trees that were removed in 2017 in the spring planting. We will replace all dead trees on Elm, Park Ave and Morris Ave in the autumn planting

Agenda Item 7: Arbor Day

- a. We did not get an answer from the Rotary Club and Judy was absent so we have decided to move on without them
- b. Corea Park – we would like to plant a very large shade tree in the middle, a grouping behind the rock and small flowering trees sloping down. We would like to partner with someone and have an actual plan. It would be a tiered plan not to happen all at once

ACTION: Kristin to call The Morristown Partnership about partnering and also check in with Judy about the Rotary Club.

ACTION: Kristin to set up a meeting with Jillian Barrick regarding idea

- c. Tree Seedlings for Arbor Day

VOTE: the STC vote unanimously to forgo handing out tree seedlings at this Arbor Day celebration

Agenda Item 8: Deep Root Barrier

Tabled because Rich W was absent

Agenda Item 9: Meeting with Jillian Barrick

- a. Still trying to get a meeting with Morristown Beautiful, Adopt a Spot and the Morristown Partnership to discuss the do's and don'ts of planting in the public right of ways including needing a plan, no invasive species and watering
- b. Reminder that spring is coming which means gators on and watering begins
- c. Wanted to know if we could keep the same quote from 2017 for the tree pruning crew, but, because we have moved it into 2018, we must begin again. The bid process will begin after the budget is approved by Council
- d. Hampshire Company needs PR statement for donation
- e. Reminder that new trees need mulch all over town
- f. Asked if we could send one DPW person, who does the tree watering, to CORE training and have him be the STC's main person who attends the trees with Rich W. Jillian will consider
- g. Asked for total in Tree Fund – our records show: \$750 as a starter \$450 from Kings. We ask for Jillian to verify
- h. Police duct taped the trees for the Women's March. Asked if we could create a memo to them regarding best practices;

ACTION: Michael to create bullet point memo for Jillian's approval

Agenda Item 10: Private Tree Removal Ordinance

Fritz Reuss would like to hand over the responsibility of private tree removal to Richard Wolowicz as he does not feel qualified to assess a historic or hazard tree. Jillian Barrick has approved and Fritz and Kristin will meet to change the language of the current ordinance to shift responsibility to the town arborist. The changes are for the arborist only, not the STC.

Agenda Item 11: Bamboo Ordinance

Several people have contacted Kristin regarding a need for a town bamboo ordinance to keep bamboo from spreading into our forests and killing our wildlife and forestry. Kristin met with Jillian and because the STC is responsible for all shrubbery as well as trees, we are supporting this effort in the town. The state of NJ has a bamboo law to prevent the spread and many surrounding towns have their own ordinances to support this effort.

ACTION: Kristin will continue to discuss with Jillian and then reach out to the council formally

Agenda Item 12: Morristown Partnership- adopt a spot

Tabled because we are waiting to hear from them regarding a plan

Agenda Item 13: Mulch Volcanoes

Deb brought in the letter to landscape companies and the list of companies to send it to.

VOTE: The STC voted unanimously to approve of the letter and companies

ACTION: Kristin to send to Jillian Barrick for possible revisions/approval

Agenda Item 14: Awareness

- a. Article "From my tree to yours..."

VOTE: The STC voted unanimously to institute the new changes we discussed.

ACTION: Kristin will send the changes to Deb to institute who will create the final document to send to MG.com. We will have it posted in MG.com in April in conjunction with Arbor Day.

Agenda Item 15: General Business

- a. Rich phone – still in discussion with Jillian Barrick
- b. STC Town Hall wall – Donor Plaque was hung and we are waiting for Tree City USA/Green Streets Grant plaques to next to it
- c. CEU – we will wait to hear from Rich W about a possible training for STC/DPW before seeking outside trainings. At this time we have 3 CEU's from Kristin, Deb and Bob who attended a webinar on the new Accomplishment Report
- d. Church of the Redeemer – The STC would like to plant two large shade trees in front of the church to bring shade/beauty to the area. We cannot plant on the street due to electrical work underneath the sidewalk. Kristin reached out to Sandra Lee Schubert regarding our desire and she felt it wouldn't work due to dry well placement on the property

ACTION: Kristin to get town blueprints regarding dry well placement on property.

Adjourn at 9:40pm