

Shade Tree Commission of Morristown

As established by the Town of Morristown Ord. No. O-2-2013; Ord. No. O-12-2017

Meeting Minutes

October 19th, 2021

7PM Zoom call, recorded

1. Roll Call

Present	Name	Role	email address
X	Kristin Ace (KA)	President	k-ace@townofmorristown.org
X	Deb Regan (DR)	Vice President	dmreganstc@gmail.com
X	Paula Zimin (PZ)	Secretary	pz.stc.morristown@gmail.com
X	Michael Rockland (MR)	Member	rockland@amerstudies.rutgers.edu
X	Robert Bell (RB)	Member	robert.j.bell.92@gmail.com
absent	Robert Norkin (RN)	Member	judyudi@yahoo.com
absent	Aaron Oliver (AO)	Member	aaron.j.oliver@gmail.com
absent	Susan Landau (SL)	Alternate	slandau.stc@gmail.com
X	Sandi Mayer (SM)	Town Council Liaison	s-mayer@townofmorristown.org
absent	Rich Wolowicz (RW)	Town Arborist	shadetree@townofmorristown.org

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

Acknowledged. This meeting was conducted in accordance with the NJ Open Public Meetings act.

3. Approve September 2021 Meeting Minutes

Approved.

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

No public attendees.

5. Arborist Report

FORESTER'S REPORT

TOWN OF MORRISTOWN SEPTEMBER 2021

Planting

- Continued the remaining loose ends on the fall planting project.
- Package was submitted to the Town for bidding.
- Cerbo Nurseries was low bidder and is scheduled to start planting around the first week of November.

Systematic Pruning

- Tentative package completed and field work was completed to obtain tree count and verify viability of work need.
- Complete package should be ready by mid-October. List of streets will be available then.

Planting Inspection and Stakes

- Stakes are being pulled out and the void left by the stakes are being filled with small pebble stone. It is anticipated that this extra porosity will allow more water to be available to the tree.

Meetings

- Attended monthly meeting with tree crew lead, DPW and administration to review activities.
- Met with Joe C at Gramby Park to instruct root pruning on damaged tree roots.
- Mulch training was done on Sept 30th to DPW.

Miscellaneous

- Tried to kill Spotted Lanternfly with vinegar and water. Results are unknown since the insect scattered upon being sprayed.

Field Inspections Address	Complaint	Findings	Status
9 Hazlett St	Check ash tree	Some dead branches, otherwise tree is ok for now.	Pending
40 Sussex	Low limbs	Cherry to elevate on Cleveland	Pending
15 Wetmore	Limbs hitting porch	Don't see how, but it is due for prune	Pending
197 Speedwell	Dead tree	Dead pear, remove	Completed
164 Speedwell	Dead tree	Dead pear, remove	Completed
Morristown Deli	Check tree	Tree is doing ok, nothing observed of any concern at this time	Completed
32 Knollwood	Check tree	Redmap 12" declining; remove tree	Pending
30 Maple	Trim request	Oak and maple, no urgent need to trim	Pending
11 Green St Lidgerwood Park	Trim request Inspected tree where pavilion is to be installed	Pear tree, put on trim list 3" oak, with broken leader. Not worth moving, but better to replace	Pending Pending
50 Harrison	Check tree	Gouge on pear tree, future removal	Pending
3 Cleveland	Trim request	Zelkova and cherry hitting house, trim	Pending
48 Cleveland	Check tree	Redmap 26" decayed top and cavity ridden	Pending

Tree Crew Meeting Notes:

- Bucket truck was out of service for most of the month due to an engine problem which had to be repaired by an outside contractor. Most of the work performed this month was done without the use of the truck
- Additional ash trees were removed from Burnham Park.
- Burning bushes were removed from Jersey Ave Park.
- Questions came up about when the Ailanthus trees that were treated as to when they are supposed to be removed...answered when they are stone dead. I need to check the treated trees to see if any potential hazard exists from any dead limbs potentially falling.
- Sprayed SLF with vinegar and water and received same results as I had with the insect scattering and couldn't tell if it killed them or confused them.

- A. Bank Street - still pending
- B. Fall planting - awarded to Cerbo, start planting in November.
- C. Systematic pruning - going out to bid. expect a list of street names before bid goes out.

6. Resident Tree Issues

- A. Glenwood Ash - private tree, not an Ash, Administration recommended resident to notifying owner (Kings Supermarket) for removal.
- B. Cutler Park concerns (45 Ralph Place) - Morristown Fall Festival inquiry from resident; Kristin followed up with resident.
ACTION: RJ to follow up with resident.
- C. Pruning at Wetmore - resident concern: claim that limbs are hitting porch. RW following up to prune.

7. Invasive

- A. Ash removal in Parks
ACTION: KA to follow up with administration to get more details of progress, completion status, etc.

8. Parks Report

- A. Jacob Ford – invasive vine removal from pine trees in process.
- B. Lidgerwood
 - a. extensive removal of invasives completed. additional removal is planned after flood mitigation work / improved drainage project is completed.
- C. Jersey Cottage Park
 - a. Burning bush has been removed.
ACTION: KA to send planting plan for park (planned for November). Information sheet to be generated to share with neighbors.
ACTION: SL to provide detail of type of seeds planned for wooded area.
- D. Elliott and Speedwell Park -
ACTION: KA to set up training with Stefan Armington
ACTION: KA to email Town Engineer for map delineating Elliott and Speedwell parks on Town property.
- E. Forested areas of Morristown
 - a. KA attended the October Town Council meeting to ask for help from Council to pay attention to our urban tree canopy.
 - i. issues with vine smothering, issues with invasives - outside of maintained areas, forested areas.

- ii. Ask for trained volunteers to help mitigate vines on trees and address invasives to save our urban forest areas surrounding our parks.

ACTION: STC to write up a forested space plan to identify specific issues and actions.

9. Business District

- A. Parking Lot Ordinance
 - a. Morristown has Parking Lot Ordinance - Parking Lot should be 25% shaded. Often requirement is waived. RB / KA made slight adjustments, advocating for more enforcement, fewer waivers.
ACTION: KA asking for time to discuss this section with zoning.
- B. Hampshire Real Estate on Maple
 - a. Removed stone a little bit. KA requested a 4 foot square minimum and will follow up.
- C. Flexipave to include tree wells on Cattano and Morris St., awarded but postponed until spring 2022.
- D. biochar 2021 – pending

10. Partnerships

- A. Foote's Pond Wood reclamation project

11. Grants

- A. J. Porter Community Tree Project Award – Awarded
 - a. KA and DR will attend award ceremony.
- B. NJUCF Stewardship - Pending (waiting until after CORE training week)

12. Awareness

- A. Beautiful Tree contest – PZ
ACTION: PZ to close out summer contest, and start fall contest.
- B. Instagram awareness clips – DR
 - a. informational clips on what the STC does. would like to keep doing them.
ACTION: set up schedule / topics for Instagram posts
 - Burnham Park
 - Invasives
 - Ailanthus... etc
- C. Fall Festival - good day of awareness!
- D. End of year flyer
 - a. Options for flyer include Ailanthus tree or climbing vines
 - i. top 3 invasive species: Ailanthus, porcelain berry, and barberry?
ACTION: RB to design flyer with SL input, to be voted on in November.
- E. Kenmuir Ave flyer
ACTION: how to care for trees, PZ to create (reference SL resources).

13. Liaison Update

- A. Council - no update.
- B. Zoning - no update
ACTION: RB to send invasives list to town representations.
- C. Planning Board - no update
- D. Burnham Park Association
 - a. Master Plan - no update

14. General Business

- A. Focus group for Landscape Scale Restoration Grant
 - a. RB recommended focus group for grant planning for 2022 - list out all grants and brainstorm projects. KA suggested Dec-Jan-Feb.
- B. Mulch for town trees - town is mulching new trees. KA asked for mulching under trees in parks.

15. New Business

CEUs need to be sent to Emily at NJ Shade Tree Federation. KA to send email.

Adjourn: 8:28 pm