

Shade Tree Commission of Morristown

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

Meeting Minutes

December 14th, 2021

7PM, Room 201, Town of Morristown Town Hall

1. Roll Call

Present	Name	Role	email address
X	Kristin Ace (KA)	President	k-ace@townofmorristown.org
absent	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
absent	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 November 2021 Meeting Minutes

Approved.

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

No public attendees.

5. Arborist Report

Morristown Forester's Report

November 2021

Arborist Report attached with discussion notes as follows:

Planting

- Planting notification letters were mailed out.
- Cerbo planted the original list during the month.
- 4 extra trees will be planted (3 at Lidgerwood Park Tennis Crt and 182 South St on Elm).
- Only 2 property owners refused the trees – **Please supply addresses of refused trees**

Meeting

- Held the monthly meeting with Jillian, Troy tree crew foreman and Joe DPW superintendent). Notes were disseminated for the last STC Meeting.

Miscellaneous

- Between Veterans Day, League of Municipalities Meeting and Thanksgiving, there wasn't a lot of time spent in Morristown during the month.
- During the winter months, identified egg masses from the Spotted Lanternfly will be scraped of the identified trees. – **Is the Arborist specifically looking for egg masses or scraping and documenting during regular tree checking?**

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Morristown Tree Crew Meeting

December 2, 2021

Completed Work:

- Leaning and hollow Black willow in Lidgerwood Park by pump house
- Tulip tree w/ large cavities along South St by Rt 287 ramps
- Worked on trimming trees along Ralph Pl along Elliot St Park – **our records show 3 trees removed and the one tree asked to be trimmed still undone. Please confirm the what trees removed and why**
- Trimming along Sherman Park area
- Jersey Ave Park: removed split tree
- Rosemilt: trimmed 3 trees
- Burnham Park:
 - Removed dead cherry
 - Trim pear trees
 - Trim tulip that was hanging over kid pool

- What is the Ash removal status? If Town tree crew cannot get to it, the STC would like to send in the supplemental crew rather than add more trees onto the pruning list.

Locations for RW to check:

- Knox Rd
- 68 Miller - sugar maple
- 25-27 Cutler St – maple tree
- King St- Ash tree

Crew to work on in future:

- List of work on spreadsheet
- Harrison St – Please give specifics on what this means
- What is the park status work for the tree crew?
 - a. STC requests clarification of
 - i. tree trimming on Ralph Pl adjacent to Elliot St. park
 - ii. tree trimming along Sherman Park (Sherman Place or Sherman Park neighborhood?)
 - iii. Is Ash tree work complete at Burnham Park – what remains?
 - b. fall planting – notification letters sent, four properties denied trees, planted extra trees in Lidgerwood near tennis courts

Additional open items – RW to provide update:

- a. Bank Street – dead tree still pending
- b. systematic pruning – awarded, will start in a few weeks, confirm
- c. mulch for town trees – coordinate with KA and DPW - pending
- d. stakes on trees need to be removed
 - a. ACTION – KA to request DPW assistance yearly
 - b. ACTION – KA to discuss gators on new trees in Burnham Park, concern about base rot
- e. 6 Elm – chemical treatment in well? - pending
- f. Ken Nilsen – tree well on Speedwell – pending
- g. tree loss replacements for 2021 – pending
- h. ash for firewood
- i. Ash removal – tree crew Park status
- j. pine needles for Jersey Cottage –
 - a. request kinds of trees in Jersey Cottage park

6. Resident Tree Issues

none

7. Invasive

none

8. Parks Report

- a. Lidgerwood
 - i. planting near new pavilion – Sandi & Aaron
 - ii. continued invasive removal on-going: tennis court toward the condos removal planned for next year after flood mitigation work
- b. Jacob Ford – invasive vine removal – KA to confirm vines have been removed
- c. Jersey Cottage Park
 - i. invasive removal & park clean up
 - ii. Landscape Grade Grant status – KA investigating grant, STC will need to collaborate on strategy urban forest concept with focus group, update in January
 - iii. Girl Scout -update
- d. Budd Park/Gramby – fence removal requested
- e. Foote’s Pond – RW to confirm tree crew informed of downed Ash to be left in place

9. Business District

- A. Tree wells on Cattano – parking authority – Pending next flexipave project, to be expanded to 4x8, flexipave 2021- spring of 2022
- B. biochar 2022

10. Partnerships

- A. Foote’s Pond Wood reclamation project update - Susan

11. Grants

- A. J. Porter Community Tree Project Award – Awarded \$2,500 for Jersey Cottage in process.
 - a. **ACTION** – SL assembled draft pamphlet, STC members to help with identifying existing trees in park.
- B. NJUCF Stewardship – Awarded / RFP and next steps
 - a. Waiting on Town Administrator
 - b. Next step – KA drafted RFP for company to do tree inventory, sent to Jillian Barrick for approval, Admin to publish, Bid expected Jan 31, anticipate one month of review and approval so work can start in March 2022. 4 months to complete inventory (June 2022)
 - i. STC to build public awareness around this grant in 2022. Tree plotter training expected.
- C. 2022 TD Bank Grant (\$10,000 to spend on trees – 25 trees)
 - a. Too late for 2022 – RJ to email Housing Authority to make plan for 2023 grant

12. Awareness

- A. Beautiful Tree contest – Paula
 - a. **Voting – submissions 1, 2, & 3 to be sent to marketing team for publication on town’s Instagram site.**
KA – 1, 2, 3
MR – 1,2, 3
RB – 1, 3, 4
PZ – 1, 3, 4
- B. Instagram awareness clips – Deb
- C. End of year flyer
 - a. Flyer was approved last month. Will be printed and distributed this month.

- D. Kenmuir Ave flyer
 - a. **ACTION** - PZ to finalize pamphlet, schedule walk-about with Councilman Armington and KA.

13. Liaison Update

- A. Council – no update
- B. Zoning / Planning Board
 - a. Turtle 2 apartments – discussing park-let to be included
 - i. Zoning Board approved
 - ii. Pocket park / outdoor amenities - details to be requested (site plan)
 - b. M Station update – honey locusts installed in front of new building. Bond to be extended to 5 years. Mayor to see about 6 tree fine for installation of trees before construction work is completed.
- C. Burnham Park Association
 - a. Master Plan - no update

14. General Business

- A. Focus group for Landscape Scale Restoration Grant
- B. Vote for officers:
 - Chair nomination – Kristin Ace, vote unanimous
 - Vice Chair nominations – Deb Regan (4 – KA, BN, DR, RB), RJ Bell (2 – MR, PZ)
 - Secretary nomination – Paula Zimin, vote unanimous

15. New Business

- A. **ACTION** – KA to discuss opportunity to sell hardwoods cut down in town with Administration.

Adjourn: 10:04pm