

## Morristown Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes

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Date: March 13, 2018

7 pm

Room 201/ Town Hall

### **1. Roll Call:**

#### **In attendance**

- Kristin Ace: Chair
- Deb Regan: Vice Chair/Secretary
- Michael Rockland
- Bob Norkin

#### **Absent**

Judy Prendergast

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

Acknowledged

### **3. Review of Minutes**

February minutes approved

### **4. Open Public Portion**

No members of the public were present

### **5. Arborist Report:**

Portions of the Arborist Report will be discussed at the April STC meeting, as the town arborist was unable to attend meeting

#### **a. Masonic Temple**

Kristin action will speak to Anthony Devizio in regards to the 3-foot right of way at the temple to confirm where plantings can take place. We will therefore be able to vote at the next meeting on how many trees can be planted in the fall of 2018.

Michael will continue to reach out to the new president.

#### **b. 19 Clinton Street**

Rich to follow up

#### **c. CEU training by Rich**

Rich to follow up

### **6 Emerald Ash Boer (EAB):**

Rich to follow up at the April meeting

a. **Addresses:** need addresses of the next wave of Ash Tree removals that are in front of resident homes ~ Rich Wolowicz

b. **Resident letters:** are ready to be mailed once we have the addresses

c. **Grow It Green Morristown(GIGM) community garden**

**Key question:**

Should the STC allow GIGM to chemically treat the Ash tree? Kristin Ace had an informative exchange on the subject with Carolle Huber, one of the founding members of GIGM, and explained the dangers of the chemical components that can negatively affect the surrounding environment.

**Possible Solution:**

Allow GIGM to cut down the ash tree and grind it down to about 3 feet deep. Rich needs to assess via site visit before moving forward.

**Voting discussion:**

Michael: feels that we remove the tree responsibly and wait for one season (6 months)

Kristin: ideal to take it down in the fall

**Grow It Green voting:**

Motion to allow Grow It Green Morristown to chemically treat the Ash tree

**Vote:** Unanimous No

**Resolution**

Remove and replace the Ash within the same area by the Town of Morristown with details to follow from Rich Wolowicz after site inspection

Deb Regan: Seconds

**Vote:** Unanimous Yes

d. **EAB Recycling Protocol**

All ash trees that are taken down and removed will be stored in the Lake Road Recycling Center. State and federal government dictate that EAB infected Ash trees must be quarantined for 2 years by which time they will no longer be inhabited by the EAB.

**7. Arbor day April 28<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00am**

Rotary Club Morristown is giving the STC \$400 to plant a tree and awaiting our details

**Possible Locations discussed:**

Bob's choice: 1<sup>st</sup> choice Elliot Street Park, 2<sup>nd</sup> choice Blachley Place triangle by the train station

Michael's choice: 1<sup>st</sup> choice Blachley Place triangle by the train station

Deb's: 1<sup>st</sup> choice Blachley Place the triangle by the train station,

Kristin: 1<sup>st</sup> choice Elliot Street Park, 2<sup>nd</sup> choice Blachley Place  
Replace tree at Sussex and cutler maybe

**Note:** Blachley Place first choice and Elliot Street Park 2<sup>nd</sup> Choice

**Action:** Kristin Ace to reach out to Jennifer Wehring and Rich Wolowicz to confirm that the STC can plant at Blachley Place.

**a. Tree species**

Cherry Blossom (tentative)

**8. Spring planting**

TBD per Rich Wolowicz

**Tentative Plan**

The STC is replacing 54 ash trees in spring of 2018.

Once we know that there is a backing of money (temporary budget or permanent budget) we can solicit bids, which is a two week process. Once the bids are received, credentials are checked for lowest bidder, and then approved by council. Once approved there is a 10 day grace period before work will begin.

**9. Bamboo ordinance**

**Goal:** to adopt a bamboo ordinance as several Morristown residents have come to the STC with concerns of bamboo invading the forests. Bamboo is an invasive species.

**Brainstorming ideas**

If a bamboo is acquired, it must be in a container because it is invasive and will therefore take over and choke all the other trees and shrubs in the surrounding landscape. Find out which neighboring towns have an ordinance and learn and extrapolate from it.

The State of NJ has a bamboo ordinance. We need to take on as project. Research and take on and find it.

Get link

**Action:** Deb Regan to research and report findings

**Deadline:** July 2018 meeting

**10. Private Tree Removal Ordinance**

**Goal:** The town of Morristown has a private tree removal ordinance. It needs to be reviewed and re-written for private tree removal.

**Action:** Michael Rockland & Bob Norkin to undertake this project

**Deadline:** June 2018 meeting. Please have written and ready for review

**11. Deep root barrier for sidewalk trees**

Table until Rich Wolowicz can discuss with Anthony Devizio

## **12. Pedestrian beacon installation on Speedwell**

Speedwell & Flagler

**Vote: unanimous Yes:** The STC agrees to follow Rich Wolowicz assessment of Callery Pear at the corner of Speedwell & Flagler as to whether it can be saved. If it can be saved the STC wants it to be saved and work around the roots according to the **Protection of Tree Ordinance**.

- Deb seconds

## **13. General business**

### **a. Morristown Rotary**

Kristin Ace to speak extensively about business district tree well rejuvenation at **The Morristown Rotary on April 11<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm**, and Deb Regan will be in attendance as well.

### **b. Church of the Redeemer**

Denied request to put trees on their property. Next step, possibly plant on the sidewalk in front of the church. Anthony Devizio could possibly cut out tree wells. To discuss with Anthony after business rejuvenation possibly 2019 or 2020.

### **c. Council Communication**

Provide a summary of what the STC is doing in Morristown.

**Action:** Kristin will look into communication protocol of how to present the info

### **d. Morristown Tree Identification Booklet**

The town of Glen Ridge has a tree identification booklet and compiled it in coordination with a photo contest for residents who took pictures of trees in the town right of way. The STC voted to institute the booklet and is considering the photo contest as well.

Revisit at next months meeting

### **e. Bartlett Tree seminar**

Kristin to reach out to Rob on rescheduling of the seminar as we need 8 continuing education credits (8 distributed amongst the group).

Typically, a seminar yields CEU units according to how many hours the training is.

### **f. Waters & Bugbee (<http://www.watersandbugbee.com>)**

The Town of Morristown awarded Waters & Buggbee the flexipave contract for the flexi pave application in the first 86 tree wells of the Business District Tree Well Rejuvenation Project.

**Summary:** remediating 300 tree wells in the business district. The first two streets are Washington Street (at Cattano) and South Street to Elm Street. The project has been 2 years in the making. Approved by Mayor and Council.

**Commencing:** April 23, 2018

**Tentative:**

Goal: fall 2018 Park Place, Market Street Morris Street, Elm Street

**g. Ward Assignments**

<b>Kristin Ace</b> Ward 2 district 1, 2, 3,4 Ward 3 district 2	<b>Deb Regan</b> Ward 1 district 1, 2, 3, 4 Ward 3 district 3	<b>Michael Rockland</b> Ward 4 district 1&2 Ward 3 district 1	<b>Bob Norkin</b> Ward 4 district 3&4 Ward 3 district 1
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**15. New Business**

Collaboration with Morristown Office of Emergency Management

<http://www.townofmorristown.org/oem>



Boy Scouts <https://ppcbsa.org>

Girl scouts <http://www.gsnnj.org>

Adjourn 9:15pm