

December 13, 2016 STC Meeting Minutes

Morristown Shade Tree Commission

Minutes from the monthly meeting, December 13, 2016

1. Roll Call

Present:

- Kristin Ace (Chair)
- Karl Roettger
- Michael Rockland
- Deb Regan
- John Mitchell

Guests:

- Rich Wolowicz (Forester)
- Jennifer Wehring (Morristown Partnership)

2. Open Public Meeting Act Compliance

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

3. Motion to accept November minutes

Made by K. Ace; 2nd K. Roettger; M. Rockland, yes; K. Roettger, yes; K. Ace, yes; (J. Mitchell. D. Regan not present for vote). Motion approved.

4. Open public portion

Jennifer Wehring (Morristown Partnership) spoke re: the downtown (South St.) rejuvenation project and the tree wells that were covered with "Flexipave". She and Anthony DeVizio produced and circulated an info-graphic explaining the tree well remediation. She engaged with pedestrians and business owners on South St. and most did not notice or voice objection to the work. Property management in the immediate area was pleased and thankful that the tree wells were neater and they would not have to deal with scattered mulch, that "Flexipave" would allow for more pedestrian space and that perhaps there would be less flooding due to increased permeability in the tree wells. It was determined that the "Flexipave" was the most logical solution to the problem of the tree wells. R. Wolowicz added that he had received two positive emails in response to the circulated info-graphic.

5. Officer Votes for 2017

Motion by K. Ace to nominate J. Mitchell as STC Secretary for 2017; 2nd K. Roettger: D. Regan, yes; M. Rockland, yes; K. Roettger, yes; J. Mitchell; yes, K. Ace, yes: Motion Approved.

Motion by K. Ace to nominate D. Regan as STC Vice Chair for 2017; 2nd by J. Mitchell: D. Regan, yes; M. Rockland, yes; K. Roettger, yes; J. Mitchell, yes; K. Ace, yes: Motion Approved.

Motion by K. Roettger to nominate K. Ace as STC Chair for 2017; 2nd by D. Regan: D. Regan, yes; M. Rockland, yes; K. Roettger, yes; J. Mitchell, yes; K. Ace, yes: Motion Approved.

6. Business District Rejuvenation

K. Ace discussed the completed remediation of the four test wells on South St. with “Bio-char” and “Flexipave”. Recommended that a slight modification of the “Flexipave” color be made to address some concerns from the administration.

6. a. Motion by K. Roettger to remove and re-locate and replace (with more appropriate tree) small ginkgo tree (tree must have wire basket removed anyway) located in front of “Anais” on South Street: 2nd K. Ace; D. Regan, yes; M. Rockland, yes; J. Mitchell, yes; K. Roettger, yes; K. Ace, yes. Motion approved.

7. FORESTER’S REPORT

**TOWN OF MORRISTOWN
NOVEMBER 2016**

Planting:

- Cerbo Garden Center has completed the planting of 86 trees in the Town. These plantings included the extras that were planted to compensate from the following projects: 78 Western, 5 Lake, 31 Sherman Pl.
- Richard Ray did not want a tree planted in front of his house so I removed that address from the planting list.
- Specifications are in place for the CSIP Tree Planting Grant. I’m currently putting together the after planting care which is to be written up and needs to be approved by the State.

Miscellaneous:

- Reviewed planting locations and issues along Speedwell Avenue with Krisin Ace

Field Visits:

ADDRESS	INQUIRY/COMPLAINT	FINDINGS	STATUS
22 Budd St	Overhanging trees from park	Trees from park are overhanging this property. Added to trim list.	Pending
29 Lake St	Dead Tree	Small cherry which is already on removal list	Pending
36 Erskine	Tree interfering w/ power lines	No interference and/or conflicts seen	Closed
172 Franklin St	Elevate gingko trees	Gingkos should be elevated, put address on list	Pending
188 Franklin St	Trim gingko	Also needs to be elevated and the address was put on the list.	Pending
30 Miller	Trim request	1 maple and 1 oak should be trimmed, added address to the list.	Pending

Additionally:

- a. R. Wolowicz will provide EAB tutorial for DPW tree crew in January.
- b. Tree bags will be removed asap and will be replaced by April 1, 2017.
- c. Trees will be on a 2 week water schedule for 2017.

8. Emerald Ash Borer Update

EAB chemical vote: tabled awaiting arborist's presentation.

9. TD Grant Update

TD Grant application was completed and submitted on schedule and grant winners will be determined in January or February.

10. Action Updates:

- a. R. Wolowicz will be meeting with A. DeVizio regarding protection of trees ordinance.
- b. Value of Trees Ordinance is under modification and review to address concerns of council president. Plans are that it will be on agenda for January council meeting.

11. Speedwell Avenue

D. Regan and K. Roettger discussed Speedwell Ave. portion of downtown rejuvenation project. They had met with Jennifer Wehring and walked Speedwell discussing opportunities, relevant private interests and an incipient potential vision for the project.

12. Awareness ideas

J. Mitchell discussed the need for outreach, communication and P.R. with the community.

13. Moving Forward

K. Ace provide a handout detailing the plans and agenda for 2017:

- a. Value of Trees Ordinance
- b. Ceu's/ Core training
- c. Accomplishment report, Annual report, Tree City USA
- d. Business District Rejuvenation
- e. Tree Watering Schedule
- f. Planting Dogwoods in Trace Park
- g. Coal Ave. parking lot; move oak, plant cherry
- h. Church lot; add tree, shrubs and mulch.
- i. Protection of Trees ordinance
- j. CSIP grant
- k. TD Green Grant/ Arbor Day
- l. Fall Festival

- m. Parking Lot ordinance
- n. Awareness
- o. Follow up on outstanding issues (rotate?)
- p. Communication with the council (rotating STC member to monthly council meeting with report/ montly report handed out to council.

Additionally, the need for new members was cited.

14. Meeting adjourned