

**SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 13, 2020**

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance: K. Halpin, G. Pohorely, S. Marr, S. McDonald
Absent: D. Butler

MINUTES:

Regular Meeting

The Washington Borough Shade Tree Commission Meeting was called to order and the “Open Public Meetings Act” read into the Record. The meeting was duly advertised and posted on the Bulletin Board for Monday, January 13, 2020. A Motion was made by S. Marr and seconded by S. McDonald that the amended minutes be approved for the meeting of November 12, 2019.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0, Abstain: 1
Motion Carried

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS:

The following appointments were made for the year 2020:

A Motion was made by Commissioner G. Pohorely and seconded by S. McDonald that Kathy Halpin be named Chairperson.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

A Motion was made by Commissioner S. Marr and seconded by S. McDonald that Gary Pohorely be named Secretary.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

THE SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2020:

Kathy Halpin, Chairperson
Gary Pohorely, Secretary

2020 SHADE TREE MEETING SCHEDULE:

January 13, 2020
February 10, 2020
March 9, 2020
April 13, 2020
May 11, 2020
June 8, 2020
July 13, 2020
August 10, 2020
September 14, 2020
October 13, 2020
November 9, 2020
December 14, 2020

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Arbor Day Newsletter: January/February 2020 - This will be filed for future reference.
2. Tree City USA Bulletin: How Trees Protect Our - This will be filed for future reference.
3. Spanner Tree & Shrub Care Inc.- This vendor information will be filed for future reference.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Tree City Recertification – The Tree City application was submitted 12/16/20. It is pending State Coordinator approval. The confirmation should be available for the March 9th Shade Tree meeting.
2. 2019 Remaining Budget – The total remaining funds left in the 2019 budget was \$.85. Any priority maintenance that could not be done in 2019 will be scheduled in 2020.
3. Accomplishment Report – K. Halpin will prepare the annual report and submit it before the 2/15/20 deadline.
4. 38 North Pickel Ave. – S. Marr visited the location and determined that the tree needs to be removed. The trunk had visible signs of storm damage.
5. 2020 Maintenance List – The Commissioners reviewed the updated maintenance list. There is a temporary budget for the Shade Tree for any immediate work that is a priority. This topic will be revisited at the February Shade Tree meeting.
6. Grand Avenue Streetscape – G. Pohorely questioned the number of street trees that were removed and planted. K. Halpin reported that the new trees were planted too deep and they were not the caliber that was recommended by the Commission. It was also noted that some trees were damaged by the equipment when the streets were repaired. S. McDonald suggested that the Borough Council should be notified about these issues. It should also be communicated that the Shade Tree Commission prefer they do not use the same contractors again. K. Halpin will be in contact with the Borough Engineer regarding this topic.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. New State Forester – Michael Martini has replaced Brian McDonald as NJ State Forester.
2. Arbor Day – The Commissioners discussed the options for this year’s Arbor Day Acknowledgement. A tree planted near the Washington Borough park pavilion was a possible location. This would replace a hazardous tree that was recently removed. S. Marr suggested that Annual Green Fest would be a good educational opportunity. Shade Tree Commissioners will have a booth to answer questions and promote environmental needs.
3. New Jersey Forestry Services – The seedling order form is available for Arbor Day. Commissioners will make a selection before the February meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business before the Commission, it was moved by S. Marr and seconded by G. Pohorely that the meeting be adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Ayes: 4, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Fleming