

**SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 11, 2021**

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

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

Absent:

**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 Thursday, March 11, 2021. A Motion was made by S. McDonald and seconded by G. Pohorely that the amended minutes be approved for the meeting of February 11, 2021.

Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Abstain: 1  
Motion Carried

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

1. Arbor Day: March/April 2021 - This will be filed for future reference.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Arbor Day Update – S. Marr is organizing the annual event scheduled for April 25, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The occasion will take place outside the Borough Hall main entrance and Mayor, Dave Higgins will read the Arbor Day Proclamation. Diana Dove will provide a wildlife display booth of “NJ Wildlife that depends on Trees” and provide craft bags. The Shade Tree Commission will offer an assortment of free seedlings to anyone in attendance. The event will be advertised on the Borough Face Book page and the Washington Messenger.
2. Expanding Shade Tree Commission Members – K. Halpin commented that the Commission could have up to 7 members. A Borough Ordinance needs to be amended to allow additional members join the Shade Tree Commission. This process will be introduced at the April 6<sup>th</sup> council meeting.
3. Dead Pine at the Emergency Squad Building – K. Halpin contacted the Emergency Squad Captain, Mark Van Deursen to confirm whether the Shade Tree Commission could have the dead pine tree removed. Since it was not dedicated in a squad members name, the tree can be removed. This location will be added to the maintenance list.
4. Replacement Trees from Sunshine Tree & Landscape – The proposal for the Grand Ave. replacement trees has not been submitted at this time. Sunshine is in the process of preparing the itemized list, which will include the purchase and planting of the specific species that need to be replaced. This topic will be discussed at a later Shade Tree meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Free Webinar Meeting – S. Marr plans to participate in the free WasteWise Webinar on May 6, 2021. There are no CEU's for the Shade Tree Commission but S. Marr highly recommends the useful information and valuable networking possibilities that it provides.
2. 10-12 East Washington Ave. – As a result of the building's fallen facade, 2 downtown trees were damaged. One was removed and the other had to be cut. The tree at 10 East Washington Ave. will need to be evaluated after the building is repaired. The tree at 12 East Washington will need to be replaced. This location will be added to the maintenance list.
3. 131 Sunrise Terrace Stump Removal Request – Homeowner (Jennie Winkler) had a tree and stump removed last year. The stump was not completely removed and was showing signs of growth. Sunshine Tree & Landscape was contacted and they will return to the location and resolve the issue at no further expense.
4. Shade Tree Commission's Webpage – K. Halpin noted that the Borough's webpage needed some updates. The Community Volunteer form does not include interest in the Shade Tree Commission. Also, the meeting days need to be changed to Thursdays due to conflicts with other departments using Zoom. These updates will be implemented as soon as possible.
5. New Vendor – S. McDonald provided a new professional tree service that could be contacted for future proposal requests.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Hearing no further business before the Commission, it was moved by S. McDonald and seconded by G. Pohorely that the meeting be adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Fleming