

**SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 13, 2021**

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

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

Washington Borough resident, Jerry Brown also attended

**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, May 13, 2021. A Motion was made by G. Pohorely and seconded by D. Butler that the minutes be approved for the meeting of April 8, 2021.

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

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Arbor Day Update – S. Marr organized the celebration for April 25, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Mayor, David Higgins read the Arbor Day Proclamation and Diana Dove had prepared a program designed especially for Arbor Day. Unfortunately, only one family attended the event. S. Marr suggested that minimal seedlings should be ordered for next year. However, G. Pohorely planted many of the leftover seedlings at the Shabbecong Creek Park.
2. Maintenance Job Proposals – The Commission reviewed the proposals for tree removals and pruning at specific locations in town. A Motion was made by S. Marr and seconded by S. McDonald that Action Tree Service will be hired to do maintenance work, depending on the availability of funds. The Borough is still working on the temporary budget.

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

3. Borough Ordinance 2021-04 - The Borough Council amended the Shade Tree Ordinance to increase the number of Commissioners from 5 to 7. The Ordinance was adopted at the May 4<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. There are 2 Borough residents that have shown interest in joining the Shade Tree Commission. Once their applications are reviewed, the Borough Council will appoint the new members by resolution and assign their terms of office.
4. Tree Diaper Usage – G. Pohorely and DPW Supervisor, Jonathan James checked all the downtown trees to determine if the tree diapers are a feasible product. Since the business

district trees have grates around their base, they needed to be checked for space for the diapers to expand. Most of the trees have space under the grates. However, Jonathan suggested the possibility of cutting the grates that may need extra space. It was not determined when the tree diapers would be installed. This topic will be discussed at the next Shade Tree meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. 2021 NJUCF Stewardship Grant – The Shade Tree Commission will apply for this State Grant. The funding would be extremely beneficial towards creating a new tree inventory list. All proposals are due by July 9, 2021. K. Halpin commented that she will work with another Commissioner to prepare the application. This topic will be discussed at the June Shade Tree meeting.
2. 11 Lenape Trail – The property owner (Ken Elliot) requested tree maintenance at his location. G. Pohorely visited the address and determined that both trees were outside the r.o.w. area. A letter will be sent to the property owner with this update.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Hearing no further business before the Commission, it was moved by S. Marr and seconded by D. Butler that the meeting be adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Fleming