

**SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 14, 2021**

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

Members in Attendance: K. Halpin, G. Pohorely, D. Butler, S. Marr, S. McDonald, J. Brown, M. Christie

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, October 14, 2021. A Motion was made by G. Pohorely and seconded by S. Marr that the minutes be approved for the meeting of September 9, 2021.

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0 Abstain: 2  
Motion Carried

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. 29 Alvin Sloan Tree Request – Property owner (Victor Cioni) had a dead Ash tree removed by the Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Cioni submitted a written request to purchase a replacement tree at his own expense. He selected a 2” caliber Ginkgo tree at a local tree farm. A Motion was made by S. Marr and seconded by G. Pohorely to approve Mr. Cioni’s request to purchase and plant the replacement tree in the right of way area.

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

A letter will be sent to Mr. Cioni approving his request.

2. Action Tree Maintenance Job – Action is in the process of working at designated locations around town. This includes 3 tree removals, 5 stump removals and multiple locations that needed trimming. This topic will be further discussed at the November meeting when the jobs are completed.
3. Sidewalk Repairs – K. Halpin and G. Pohorely will be attending the NJ Shade Tree Federation Conference. This is an opportunity to get some cost-effective ideas for repairing the uplifted sidewalks. It was suggested that the Commission might be able to work with a State Cooperative contractor to lower the cost. This topic will be further discussed at the November meeting.

4. Grand Avenue Streetscape- K. Halpin will contact Sunshine Tree & Landscape to submit the cost of purchasing and planting 9 replacement trees on Grand Avenue. The cost of these trees will not be a Shade Tree Expenditure.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. 27 East Church Street – Property owner (Josephine DiMartino) requested a Linden tree be pruned away from her front porch. The tree is in the right-of-way area. D. Butler visited the location and commented that the healthy tree could be slightly elevated to remove branches that extend toward the house. This address will be added to the maintenance list.
2. Midtown Apartments – The building manager (Larry Eichler) contacted the Borough Manager about a dead tree near the apartment complex. The DPW removed the declining tree and cut the stump flush to the ground. The tree was situated on a stone covered area and the stump was covered with the loose gravel to avoid any potential hazard.
3. 117 Sunrise Terrace – Owner (Maria Liloia) requested a Linden tree be removed in the right-of-way area. K. Halpin noted that the tree was improperly pruned by JCP&L in the past. The Linden tree is healthy and not a potential hazard to the home or pedestrians. The Commission unanimously agreed to provide the owner with some options. It was suggested to have the tree evaluated by a professional tree service on the next maintenance quote, to contact JCP&L to remove the tree, since they did not prune it properly. Lastly, the owners could remove the tree at their own expense, provided that they use a professional tree service. A letter will be sent.
4. Park Trees – G. Pohorely commented that the Borough Park trees need maintenance work. There are two dead trees near the basketball court and the grandstand area. Also, there are a number of trees that need evaluating. This location will be placed on the next maintenance list. G. Pohorely added that the town is losing trees every year. The Borough can benefit by donations and programs as Adopt a Tree to help fund tree replacements. Since the Commission was recently awarded the 2021 NJ Urban and Community Forestry Stewardship Grant, an additional grant application for tree planting is not an option at this time. This topic will be further discussed at a later date.
5. Update Commissioners Designated Area – K. Halpin suggested that all Commissioners check right-of-way trees that that need elevating in their respective locations. The list will be discussed at the November Shade Tree meeting.

### **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 8:20 p.m.

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Fleming