

Borough of Red Bank
Shade Tree Committee
December 15, 2020 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Remedios Quiroz.

Members Present: Boris Kofman, Debbie Marks, Remedios Quiroz, David Schmetterer (all via Zoom)

Absent: Bill Brooks

Ex-officio member:

Guests: Adrienne Bilaal, Cindy Burnham, Sue Viscomi

Topics Discussed (updates in *italics*)

1. *November 17, 2020 meeting minutes approved.*
2. CEUs. Remedios and Boris attended webinars. *We now have enough CEUs to satisfy the State's requirement for the Approved status.*
3. Trees Roots & Sidewalk Conflict webinar - putting foam below concrete is effective and inexpensive. Need to discuss with Erik.
4. Tree Inventory Update - start Zone 1 in 2021.
5. NJUCF Stewardship Grant. \$30K has been awarded. Red Bank will need to request an extension, as the grant work period will end before the final inspection. Erik and Cliff stated that planting will be done in the spring 2021. Bids will be solicited early next year. *The State needs to know the status. Erik to follow up with Cliff. Remedios will schedule a meeting with Cliff to see how STC can help.*
6. Bellhaven. Will more trees be planted? Cliff said that additional landscaping will be discussed with neighbors. Bill voiced concern about the state of the trees. The recently planted dead oak has been removed.
7. Hazardous trees survey - STC funds can be used to hire a contractor to do the survey. Remedios asked Bill to provide contractor recommendations to Erik.
8. Eastside Park. Two Willow Oaks near the structure need to have the soil replaced. Per Ziad, "the landscaper has not done their part yet."
9. East Bergen PI Road Program. Erik to find out the status of the tree plantings.
10. Marine Park redesign. Erik to forward the concept design to STC.
11. *Per Boris - we removed 110 trees this year, and planted 35, a loss of 75. Over the last 3 years, we removed 217, planted 80, for a net loss of 137. How do we fix this? Remedios will schedule a meeting with Erik.*

Maintenance/planting requests

1. Public access path at the end of Bank St. (River's Edge) – The developer planted 15 red oaks along the path. Four appear dead, the rest are stressed out. There are also mulch volcanoes. Remedios and Boris met onsite with the developer Charles Farouk and HOA President Jeff Loonan. The agreement is to replace 4 dying trees and accept \$1500 into the trust fund for 3 trees that have been removed. Mr. Farouk agreed to plant the 4 trees in the spring. The 4 dying trees have been removed. Dina is following up. CFO reported that no money has been deposited into the trust fund for this project. Replacement trees have not been planted. Erik will follow up.
2. County trees. Bill is working with the County Div. of Shade Tree on getting hazardous trees removed. The County will prioritize the removal of the 2 Willow Oaks on Harding and a tree on Broad across from Foodtown. *276 Broad St - potentially hazardous Linden - Bill will ask the County to evaluate.*
3. Trees damaged on Worthley. A lot of improperly cut, damaged and broken branches, apparently during the road repaving. <https://photos.app.goo.gl/QQvCoFK59NsMoE4k8> DPU should prune them.
4. 9-11 Allen PI - owner offers to pay for replacement trees. STC is ok with it. They are offering to plant one replacement tree on the lawn. STC is asking for two replacement trees. Erik got an update from the Borough Prosecutor: the homeowner was given 30 days from Nov. 3 to plant one tree on the lawn, using the species from the STC list.
5. 26 Oldfield PI - private tree, [large dead limbs over the sidewalk](#). Erik asked Ziad to notify Code Enforcement.
6. Trail between Drs Parker Blvd and Bank St along the Swimming River. Hazardous oak observed by Bill and Boris. Bill to discuss with Cliff.
7. Tree grates need to be cut. Cliff to give an update.

8. 44 Linden Pl. - tree leaning. Erik asked DPU to stake it.
9. Norway Maple by Welsh Farms - dead; added to the removals list
10. 225 Mechanic - tree was taken down (by DPU?). A stump that's at least 10 inches high was left.

Public Comments

1. Adrienne Bilaal. Red Bank needs more trees and less development.
2. Cindy Burnham. Agrees with Ms. Bilaal. Restated her concern about the private trees at 67 Wallace St. Ms. Burnham has already contacted Code Enforcement. The south side of Wallace St. has very few trees. There's a tree on Washington St. that needs maintenance - will email us the address.
3. Sue Viscomi. A tree was removed on Bridge Ave near Drs. Parker, but the stump is left. Ms. Viscomi offered to create a video to help STC educate the public.

Planning/Zoning Board Applications

1. None

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 19, at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Boris Kofman, Secretary

CC: Shade Tree Committee, Mayor & Council, Business Administrator Ziad Shehady, Public Utilities Director Cliff Keen, Borough Engineer Gregory Valesi, Borough Clerk Pamela Borghi