

Borough of Red Bank
Shade Tree Committee
January 16, 2018 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by Remedios Quiroz.

Members Present: Boris Kofman, Mike Kosberg, Debbie Marks, Remedios Quiroz

Absent: Bill Brooks

Ex-officio member: Councilman Erik Yngstrom

Topics Discussed (updates in *italics*)

1. *December 19 2017 meeting minutes approved.*
2. *Election of officers. Chair – Remedios Quiroz, Vice-Chair - Bill Brooks, Secretary – Boris Kofman.*
3. *Zone 3 inventory update. Will start in the spring.*
4. *2017 Road Program. E. Bergen from Branch to Maple. Planting will be in the spring 2018. Remedios sent the list of recommended planting locations to CME. Per CME, following trees are causing a sidewalk lift: 257 Maple, 222 (2), 208, 200, 188, 136, 106, 96, 92, 88, 108 South, 54, 50-52, 46, 40, 22, 20, 16, 135 Branch Ave. Bill looked at them with CME. The number of trees to be removed have been reduced to less than 10. *CME has the list.**
5. *Policy on sidewalk-root conflict. Cliff presented a policy draft. Once approved, the policy will be posted on the DPU and STC web pages. Policy reviewed and approved by STC. Will try to issue bond for residents to get interest-free loan to fix sidewalk.*
6. *Sunburst Honeylocust added to the recommended list; website updated.*
7. Ordinance 490-81.B(1) says, "Evergreen trees and/or shrubs shall be of a type acceptable to the municipal agency and shall generally conform to the type categories shown on a list of suggested trees and shrubs available from the administrative officer (the designations Type A, B, etc., refer to such list)." We should find out whether this list is what STC has provided or something else. Erik will check with Glenn.
8. Remaining STC budget will be encumbered for 2018 spring planting. *PO issued to NJTF for 7 Elms.*
9. JCP&L will be trimming the trees. Bill will confirm circuit schedule.
10. Primary School Access Road – Mike will make a list of recommended species.
11. Annual Report to the State due 2/15 – Boris will draft.
12. Tree City USA application – Boris will apply
13. 2018 Budget – \$1500 temporary.
14. Mike provided a selection of trees for typical small lots that the Planning & Zoning Dept can give to applicants. *Posted to the website.*

Maintenance/planting requests

1. 251 Mechanic - Road Program tree is dead. Notified T&M. Tree has been removed. The replacement should be on High St. Remedios contacted T&M. Erik is following up.
2. Public access path at end of Bank St. – The developer planted 15 red oaks along the path. Four appear dead, the rest are stressed out. There are also mulch volcanoes. T&M (Ed Herrman) responded that the maintenance bond is until 7/29/18 and recommends inspecting the trees in the spring. The ultimate decision is up to Glenn Carter.
3. Garfield PI - Zelkovas next to Walgreens are dead or dying. T&M (Ed Herrman) responded that the bond is until 2/10/18, but could do the inspection this fall. The ultimate decision is up to Glenn Carter. Recommend replacements in the same area. Remedios will confirm with Glenn that the new trees will be maintained for a year.
4. 22 Wallace St – homeowner concerned about the sidewalk lift by the Honeylocust. May be able to cut the top root. Need to lift the sidewalk and look. See above regarding sidewalk-root conflict.
5. Count Basie Park - Nissan on Newman Springs Rd indicated that some trees on the park side of the may be hazardous. Bill reported that 4 trees need to be removed. DPU got a quote. DPU will pay for the work. Requisition issued.
6. BOE building. Two London Planetrees need to be removed. DPU is handling it. Got quote. Requisition issued.
7. 282 Spring St. – homeowner reports that the tree is lifting the sidewalk, which was replaced 6 years ago. See above regarding the sidewalk-root conflict policy.

8. 45 Broad St – property owner concerned about sidewalk lift. See above regarding the sidewalk-root conflict policy.
9. 96 Hudson Ave – Rich Hardy saw a large cavity. Boris didn't see it. Bill will look.
10. County trees. Bill is working with the County Div. Of Shade Tree (George Nobel) on getting hazardous trees removed.
11. 60 Maple Ave. Property owner requested to have the dying Red Maple removed. It's in the County ROW. Erik checked with Greg and Cliff about the process. They believe NJ DOT is responsible. Bill will follow up.

Planning/Zoning Board Applications

1. Wawa Shade tree deficiency – *they are not able to find trees that are 4DBH – Remedios sent email for them to work with the nurseries*
2. 14 W. Front St – *no comment. Change of use.*
3. 60 Locust Ave – There's a pear in front of the house (not shown on the plan). It looks like a proposed driveway will require its removal. They're also removing a number of trees on their property. The frontage is about 90'. Request 2 trees on the ROW.

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 20, at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Boris Kofman, Secretary

CC: Shade Tree Committee, Mayor & Council,
Planning and Zoning Director Glenn Carter, Public Utilities Director Cliff Keen, Borough Engineer
Gregory Valesi, Borough Clerk Pamela Borghi