

Borough of Red Bank
Shade Tree Committee
November 21, 2017 Meeting Minutes

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

Members Present: Bill Brooks, Boris Kofman, Mike Kosberg, Debbie Marks, Remedios Quiroz
Absent: none

Ex-officio member: Councilman Erik Yngstrom

Guests: Laura Neumann, Matt Berdahl (CME Engineers); Cliff Keen

Topics Discussed (updates in *italics*)

1. *October 17, 2017 meeting minutes approved.*
2. CFMP – need to get the Planning Board to add it to the Master Plan. Remedios will follow up. Referenced on p. 80 of <http://www.redbanknj.org/documentcenter/view/573> Recommend to add a reference to the current CFMP when the next Master Plan revision is done.
3. Zone 2 inventory update. Boris, Lou and Pat Pinto did several streets.
4. CEUs. Next webinar 12/13, 1pm.
5. 2017 Road Program. E. Bergen from Branch to Maple. CME has CTEs that can help us if desired. Plan to go out to bid for E. Bergen around November. Can see plans in the fall. Planting will be in the spring 2018. Need to provide suggested locations and species by November. Update from 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 will look at them with CME.
6. 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.
7. NJ Assembly General Resolution 216 – Encourages homeowners to plant native plants that support bee pollination and create habitats for all pollinators. Remedios asked Pam to put it on the website. Done.
8. Access road from Locust Ave to RBPS. Bill will advise on the species to plant.
9. We should consider adding Sunburst Honeylocust to our recommended list. It's salt tolerant and not messy. <https://www.thespruce.com/sunburst-honey-locust-trees-2132048> Bill will do some research.
10. 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.

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. Come up with a selection of trees for typical small lots that the Planning & Zoning Dept can give to applicants. Mike will finalize the list before the next meeting.
5. 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.
6. 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.

7. BOE building. Two London Planetrees need to be removed. DPU is handling it. Got quote. *Requisition issued.*
8. 21 Buena Pl. – homeowner reported to Ed Zipprich that a Becker Tree Service truck split the pear tree in front of their house. Becker removed the tree. Homeowner will negotiate with Becker for a replacement tree. Elm or Black Tupelo was recommended to match other new trees on the block.
9. 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.
10. 45 Broad St – property owner concerned about sidewalk lift. See above regarding the sidewalk-root conflict policy.
11. 96 Hudson Ave – Rich Hardy saw a large cavity. Boris didn't see it. **Bill** will look.
12. 11 Allen Pl – homeowner removed 2 trees. Debbie sent a letter to the homeowner with the list of the recommended species under wires.
13. DPU presented a list of trees that they want STC to evaluate. **Bill** will do that.
14. County trees. **Bill** is working with the County Div. Of Shade Tree (George Nobel) on getting hazardous trees removed.
15. 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.
16. 38 Marion St. Homeowner reported a raised sidewalk. Mike confirmed and took pictures. See above regarding the sidewalk-root conflict. DPU received another inquiry from the homeowner. *Per Bill, the Red Maple is 20" DBH, located in a 24" planting strip. It has girdled roots. The sidewalk is lifted 3". Bill recommends removing it and replacing it with a more suitable species. The homeowner is willing to pay for the new tree.*
17. 274 Spring St – requested a replacement, but the planting strip is less than 2' wide; the lawn is empty. **Remedios** will respond that the strip is too narrow and provide a list of recommended species for the lawn.
18. Fall Planting. Received a quote from NJTF. PO issued for 7 trees (4 Princeton Elms, 3 Serviceberries). *Planting completed. Gator bags have been placed; requested DPU to fill them.*
19. *Boris reports that there's a large Pin Oak on Branch Ave on private property (Molly Pitcher Village Apts) whose base is covered with fungi.*
<https://photos.app.goo.gl/Vq3kKmPzAtZN067K2> **Cliff** will follow up.
20. *57-59 Linden – Resident reported tree lifting the side walk. Per photos Boris took, this Red Maple was planted in a very narrow strip (probably by the former resident?) and growing into the wires. Recommend removing it.*
21. *Bill reports that there are small undesirable volunteer trees (e.g, black locust) popping up in Riverside Gardens Park, in the back left corner by the Bluffs. Recommend removing them and planting species with shorter growth habit.*
22. *Bellhaven Nature Area – dead trees will be removed.*

Planning/Zoning Board Applications

1. *6 Newman Springs Road (WaWa). 1. They're requesting a waiver for the number of trees required by ordinance (83 vs 54). Recommend either paying into the Shade Tree Fund for the 29 tree deficiency or doubling the DBH of the proposed trees. Make sure it's the DBH (per ordinance) and not caliper.*
2. *Leyland Cypress - replace with a species from the recommended species list, e.g. change to Green Giant Arborvitae.*
3. *Change native Dogwood to a species from our recommended species.*

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

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Boris Kofman, Secretary

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