

Borough of Red Bank
Shade Tree Committee
December 19 2017 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 pm by Remedios Quiroz.

Members Present: Bill Brooks, Mike Kosberg, Debbie Marks, Remedios Quiroz

Absent: Boris Kofman

Ex-officio member: Councilman Erik Yngstrom

Guests: Cliff Keen

Topics Discussed (updates in *italics*)

1. *November 21, 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. *Finished. On line inventory updated.*
4. 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 looked at them with CME. The number of trees to be removed have been reduced to less than 10. Bill will provide a list of the trees to be removed. Remedios sent the list of planting locations to Laura.*
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. Access road from Locust Ave to RBPS. Bill will advise on the species to plant. *Construction will begin after school ends in June 2018.*
7. Sunburst Honeylocust will be added to the recommended list. Boris
8. 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.
9. *Remaining STC budget will be encumbered for 2018 spring planting. Boris requested a quote from NJTF.*
10. *JCP&L will be trimming the trees. Bill will confirm circuit schedule*

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 - Zelvokas 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. Mike provided a selection of trees for typical small lots that the Planning & Zoning Dept can give to applicants. Remedios will ask Pam to post to the website.
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. 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.
9. 45 Broad St – property owner concerned about sidewalk lift. See above regarding the sidewalk-root conflict policy.
10. 96 Hudson Ave – Rich Hardy saw a large cavity. Boris didn't see it. **Bill** will look.
11. 11 Allen Pl – homeowner removed 2 trees. Debbie sent a letter to the homeowner with the list of the recommended species under wires.
12. DPU presented a list of trees that they want STC to evaluate. **Bill** will do that.
13. County trees. **Bill** is working with the County Div. Of Shade Tree (George Nobel) on getting hazardous trees removed.
14. 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.
15. 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". The homeowner is willing to pay for the new tree. *Added to the removal list.*
16. 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.
17. 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 ask a Boro official to contact them.
18. 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. *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.

Need an ordinance that will require payment into the shade tree fund for deficiencies in required trees in the project not just street tree deficiencies.

Per applicant: they can't find 4 DBH trees. Remedios responded that they have to walk the nurseries, measure trees and tag those that meet the 4 DBH requirement or hire tree broker.

2. 251 Drs Parker – Protect the tree at the curb during construction

3. 210 Newman Springs Rd – no comment. Change of use.

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 16, at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Brooks, Vice-Chairman

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