

Borough of Red Bank  
Shade Tree Committee  
March 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes

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

Members Present: Bill Brooks, Boris Kofman, Debbie Marks, Remedios Quiroz, David Schmetterer

Absent:

Ex-officio member: Erik Yngstrom

Guests:

**Topics Discussed** (updates in *italics*)

1. *February 19 meeting minutes approved.*
2. Zone 4 inventory update. Start in spring.
3. CEUs. Urban Forest Connections Webinar 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. *Top 10 Trees for NJ Workshop on 3/24. Bill is going to the County Spring Forum on 3/24.*
4. NJUCF Stewardship Grant. \$30K has been awarded. Council passed the resolution. Next - come up with the planting schedule. The following species will be considered:
  - a. Under wires:
    - Maackia, Amur
    - Serviceberry, Allegheny
  - b. No wires:
    - Tupelo, Black
    - Elm, Valley Forge American
    - Ginkgo, Princeton Sentry
    - Oak, Fastigiata English
    - Oak, Willow
- ★ **Debbie, Remedios and Dave** will survey the locations proposed by Boris. 46 surveyed by Debbie and Remedios.
- ★ Growth regulators. Based on industry studies and experts' opinion, their effectiveness is not conclusive (<https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/fnr/fnr-252-w.pdf>).
- ★ Root barriers.
  - May be effective if installed correctly. (<http://shadetreexpert.com/the-use-of-root-barriers-to-protect-infrastructure-from-%E2%80%A8roots/>)
  - State Forestry said the plan can be amended to pay for root barriers.
  - Forester from Morristown says the jury on them is still out.
  - NJTF advises against using them.
- ★ Consider planting only in strips wider than 30".
- ★ Need to change the schedule to start in Spring 2019.
- ★ Consider requesting a modification of the proposal to allow for fixing sidewalk.
- ★ **Boris** will check with NJ Forestry the latest we can plant.
- ★ **Boris** will check with NJTF if they can handle 5" caliper trees.
5. Seedlings for Arbor Day. NJ Forestry offering up to 1000 for free. 275 will be provided and will be given out during the Earth Day Expo on April 28, *starting at noon. First-come, first-served.*
6. Zelkova - given our experience with them, Remedios recommended removing Zelkovas from the recommended species list. *Current statistics:*
  - a. *91 are still OK*
  - b. *10 have been removed since 2012 or need to be removed.*
  - c. *1 may need to be removed.*

*Conclusion: STC won't plant any for now, but keep it on the recommended species list to give developers more options.*
7. White St. streetscape project. Suggested planting trees along the new path through the parking lots. *The northern section of the sidewalk will have Pencil Hollies, but the southern section will have no trees.* **Remedios** will request them.

8. Bellhaven. *Bill recommended Bald Cypress, Swamp White Oak, Serviceberry. Borough Grant Writer is asking for a support letter. Remedios will send it.*
9. Marine Park. *Concerned about the removal of many trees. Will look at the landscape plan when it becomes available. Borough Grant Writer is asking for a support letter. Remedios will send it.*
10. Eastside Park. *Trees need to be protected during construction. Bill will mark the fencing area.*
11. James Scavone (RiverCenter) *asked about STC's position on keeping holiday lights on trees permanently. Remedios will respond that they should be removed as soon as possible because they interfere with trees' natural functions.*

### **Maintenance/planting requests**

1. Public access path at 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 would like to make a payment in lieu replacing any trees. Mr. Loonan does not agree. Bill contacted Mr. Farouk. Mr. Farouk agreed to plant the 4 trees in the spring. The 4 dying trees have been removed. Lisa Guzzone asked if STC is responsible for trees along river's edge. *Referred to Ziad for follow-up.*
2. Garfield Pl - Zelkovas next to Walgreens are dead or dying. Glenn Carter asked the developer to replace them before the bond can be released.
3. County trees. Bill is working with the County Div. of Shade Tree (Steve Whilee) on getting hazardous trees removed, including
  - a. 175 Shrewsbury Ave - Bradford Pear
  - b. 152 Broad St - Bradford Pear
4. Trees around Globe Court Garage – many of the trees planted by the hospital are not doing well. Remedios emailed Riverview Medical. *Sheila asked for a recommendation. Recommend testing soil ([Cooperative Extension of Monmouth Co, Rutgers U](#)) and watering trees after planting.*
5. Road Program. 2019 streets - Pearl, McLaren, Tilton, Grant Pl. *Feasible to narrow the roadway and widen the planting strip on McLaren (40' wide)? Per Engineer, it's not a complete replacement.*
6. 143 Bridge Ave – Boris reported Zelkova with a vertical crack. Bill will take a look when it leaves out.
7. 132 Leighton Ave. Boris reported Bosque Elm has lost a large limb, recommends removal. Bill will look.
8. Car hit a tree on Harding Rd. Bill will ask the County to look at it.
9. 40 McLaren St. - homeowner wants the tree removed because it's on top of the sewer line. Bill will check.
10. Monmouth St between Bridge and Shrewsbury - DPU wants to remove the 4 trees on the south side. Bill will check.
11. 2 trees on Maple Ave, corner Reckless Pl were removed. Possibly by NJ DOT.

### **Planning/Zoning Board Applications**

1. 81 W. Westside Ave. No landscape plan. 175' of frontage = 4 trees. None exist. Planting strip too narrow. *From Glenn: "A condition of the approval (which is a standard conditions) is that they contribute to the Shade Tree Fund for any shade tree deficiency. This fee is collected prior to the issuance of a development permit by my office."*
2. 2 Sliverwhite Ave - Erik will check with Glenn if the fee will be collected.
3. 16 & 22 W. Front St. 268' of frontage = 6 trees. They're proposing just 1 ornamental tree (on their property but close to Boat Club Way). *Recommend planting 4 flowering cherries along Union St. They'll need to make a contribution to the Shade Tree Fund for the deficit.*
4. 390 Shrewsbury Ave (Dunkin Donuts). *The species and the quantities look good.*
5. 94-98 East Front St. *The species and the quantities look good.*

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 16, at 7:00 PM. *Dave will not attend. Bill may not attend.*

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Boris Kofman, Secretary

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