

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

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

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

Absent:

Ex-officio member: Councilman Erik Yngstrom

Guest:

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

1. *February 21, 2017 meeting minutes approved.*
2. Tree Bank. Investigate where there was no room to plant a tree to pay into a tree bank. – need an ordinance. Bill brought a copy of the ordinance from Rumson. **Erik** will review it with the Borough Attorney.
3. Bill reported that Red and Black Oaks are susceptible to a fungus. A mature tree in Fair Haven, with no visible external issues, fell due to core rot. Mature Red Bank trees, especially Red Oaks and Sycamores should be examined. Bill is working with Cliff. Suggest doing a windshield survey of all public trees.
4. CFMP – need to get the Planning Board to add it to the Master Plan. **Remedios** will follow up.
5. Zone 2 inventory update – will start in spring.
6. Marine Park construction – Erik requested DPU to protect the trees. Cliff will follow up. **Bill** will follow up.
7. Tree City USA. *Boris applied online.*
8. 64 Sunset (& Leighton) – Red Maple hit by snow plough. *Removed by DPU.*
9. West Side Lofts –Chris Cole will present the revised landscape plan in the next few weeks.
10. 2015 CSIP Grant. Tree inspection scheduled for May 12.
11. CEUs.
  - a. *Remedios and Boris attended the webinar Let Then Climb Trees (1 CEU).*
  - b. CORE - April 8 at Rutgers.
12. Arbor Day. Plant trees at the Middle School? **Bill** will see if he can get trees donated. **Boris** will ask the Schools Superintendent if he's interested.
13. Princeton STC Info Sheet – **Bill** shared. **Debbie** will see if it can be used for RB.

**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. **Remedios** is following up.
2. 185-187 Mechanic St – resident concerned that the Norway Maple is diseased and dropping dead branches. Boris looked. It doesn't seem to be an eminent hazard, but there's die-back and leaf scorch. Suggest keeping an eye on it for now and see how it looks in the spring.
3. 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 volcanos. Remedios notified T&M. **Remedios** is following up.
4. Garfield PI - Zelkovas next to Walgreens are dead or dying. Remedios notified T&M. **Remedios** is following up.
5. Pruning & removals – Remedios sent Cliff the list. DPU removed all except 69 E. Bergen and 63 Madison (JCP&L needs to remove the guy-wire first). **Bill** talked to JCP&L. (*Verizon & Comcast also need to move their wires.*) The rest need to be contracted out. Cliff will check on the PO. **Remedios** will follow up.
6. 55-57 South St. Homeowner wants the Red Maple removed in order to have access to the new parking space. Waiting to hear if Planning/Zoning Dept gave him permit to build 2<sup>nd</sup> driveway.
7. Spring planting – 11 trees (7 Black Tupelos, 4 Serviceberries). PO has been issued and can be used in the spring. The planting is scheduled for 3/29. NJTF requested utility markouts. Members will deliver door-hangers to the houses adjoining the planting locations.
8. Come up with a selection of trees for typical small lots that the Planning & Zoning Dept can give to applicants. – **Bill & Mike**.
9. 74 McLaren (on William) – neighbors report the Norway Maple is dropping branches. Will follow up in the spring. Bill thinks it should be removed. DPU removed it.
10. Cliff will notify STC whenever any construction is being done.

11. Road Program – E. Bergen, Pearl, west side of Leighton, Gold St. parking lot. part of Manor Dr. are being considered. Cliff will keep STC in the loop.
12. 135 Harding Rd – homeowner is concerned about the heavy branches along the sidewalk. Remedios responded. **Bill** will take a look after the trees leaf out.
13. 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. **Bill** will follow up with and Cliff and Erik about the lifted sidewalk policy.
14. *Boris and Lou pruned young trees throughout town.*
15. 26 E. Westside Ave – homeowner says the pear is consistently damaged by vehicles and *believes that recent damage will cause the tree to die. Boris doesn't believe the damage was bad enough to make the tree hazardous. A small limb was torn off, but the trunk wound is less than 1/3 of the circumference. It did make the tree unbalanced, so pruning some of the lower branches on the sidewalk side may be good.* <https://goo.gl/photos/hDQHwJgYBfCqC6YTA>
16. *DPU removed: 89 Prospect, 274 Spring (replacement requested), 74 McLaren (replacement requested), 96 Bank, 64 Sunset; pruned: 47 Harrison, 246 Mechanic, corner of Broad and Reckless.*
17. *109 McLaren – a large limb came off during a storm. Per homeowner, DPU (Rich Hardy) agreed with him that the tree should be removed. The tree was removed subsequently. A replacement is requested.*
18. *17 Buena Pl. Homeowner concerned that the tree roots are cracking the sidewalk. The sidewalk was last patched up by a handy man. The lift is minimal. Advised the homeowner to replace the sidewalk using a reputable contractor. **Debbie** will advise the homeowner not to damage the tree.*
19. *Count Basie Park - Nissan on Newman Springs Rd indicated that some trees on the park side of the may be hazardous. One was marked. Boris checked trees on the north side of the fence and agreed that the marked tree needs to be removed. **Bill** will also check the trees along the western fence.*

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

1. *246 Drs. James Parker Blvd – The two street trees (London Planes) adjacent to the property should not be harmed. There are several large trees on the western and eastern edges of the property. The plans don't indicate what will happen to them.*

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 18, at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 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