

**City of Lambertville**  
**SHADE TREE COMMISSION**

**Minutes of January 28, 2019 Meeting**

Attending the meeting were members Art Legere, Brian Herzhauser, Helen Pettit, Susan Wydick, Jessica Campo and Tom Ogren. New member Rich Mowry was absent. In the absence of former chairperson Emily Goldman who resigned effective December 31st, Vice Chair Art Legere convened the meeting at 7:40 pm. The meeting was held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

**Swearing-in of New Member:** Art sworn-in new member Brian Herzhauser.

**Election of New Officers:** Art moved the nomination and election of Brian Herzhauser as chairperson, seconded by Helen. All voted in favor. Helen moved the nomination and election of Art as vice chairperson, seconded by Jessica. All voted in favor. Art moved the nomination and election of Tom as secretary, seconded by Helen. All voted in favor. Tom moved the nomination and election of Helen as Corresponding Secretary, seconded by Art. All voted in favor.

**Approval of Minutes:** Art made a motion, seconded by Helen, to approve the minutes of the December 17th meeting. All voted in favor with Brian abstaining.

**Remarks by Mayor Fahl:** Brian welcomed Mayor Fahl to the meeting who wished to make some remarks. Mayor Fahl thanked the Commission members for volunteering to serve. She then described a new policy of including a budget line item for each City commission or committee in this year's budget. She encouraged the Commission to submit within the next 1-2 months a request to fund projects which would produce a tangible benefit to the City. Mayor Fahl concluded by asking Commission members attend the February 2nd training session for City volunteers.

**New Business:**

45 Coryell Street Tree: Brian mentioned that the property owner contacted him about how to deal with a hazardous sidewalk caused by tree roots elevating his brick sidewalk. The Commission members agreed that Brian should meet on site with the owner to discuss possible options and report back at the next meeting.

**Old Business:**

- a. STC Ordinance Revision: Art mentioned that he would finalize proposed revisions to the ordinance and present it to the Commission for consideration at the next meeting. Lauren Kovacs of the Environmental Commission asked that the STC provide a copy of the proposed revised ordinance to the Environmental Commission. Art indicated that the ordinance could be made available after the STC has finished its review of the draft.
- b. Tree Inventory: Brian indicated that he would consult with Rich Mowry about doing an inventory. Tom suggested that software designed for municipal tree inventories should be

looked at. At the suggestion of Mayor Fahl, Brian will also contact someone who worked on Princeton's tree inventory.

c. NJ DEP Tree Seedling Application: Art mentioned that Emily was to submit the application to NJ DEP by the December 14th deadline. The application status was unknown and Tom agreed to follow-up to find out the status of the application.

d. Ash Borer: Helen indicated that the Ash Boer subcommittee had not met in several months. At the last subcommittee meeting in October. she said that the committee was determined to focus on planting seedlings for Ash replacement, conducting public education events, and expanding the tree inventory to include private property as well as City property trees. Mary Ann Borge of L-V Goes Wild asked if the subcommittee should continue. Brian agreed to follow-up with Mary Ann and Lauren Kovacs on the future of the committee.

e. Clinton Street (Phase 2) Project: There was a brief discussion on the status of plans for the project. Mayor Fahl indicated that the plans were done and estimates are over budget so there is still time for the STC to review and comment. Helen said that the City engineer has still not provided full size drawings for street trees in phase 2. The mayor agreed to have the engineer provide full size plan sheets.

f. 30 Delevan Street Tree Action Request: Tom indicated that he followed up with owner Russell Ferri and that he had not received a letter informing him of Commission approval to trim his Zelkova tree. Tom then informed the owner that it had been approved.

g. 16 S. Union Street Tree Action Request: Given that the maple tree was dead, Tom moved, seconded by Brian, that removal of the tree, including stump, be approved. All voted in favor. Property owner Robert Jordan, who attended the meeting, thanked the STC.

h. Church Street Tree Replacement: Tom reiterated that the STC should consider requesting funding this year to replace the 14 dead and missing trees (previously planted by the City). Mayor Fahl suggested possible grant funding from the state and qualifying for Tree City USA status to make a grant request more competitive.

i. Sheridan Park Tree Action Request: Helen indicated that she would send a letter to Heather Martin approving her request to remove a walnut tree next to her property. She said that the request was approved at the December meeting but a letter was not sent due to the resignation of the previous Corresponding Secretary.

**Public and Member Comments:** Mary Ann Borge asked about the status of revising the recommended tree planting list as she proposed at a previous meeting. Tom indicated that he had incorporated the proposed native tree additions on the existing list and provided a copy to STC members. The list is to be reviewed at a later meeting. Mary Ann suggested that the revised list, once approved, be included on the City's website.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Tom Ogren  
Secretary