

City of Lambertville
SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Minutes of September 30th, 2019 Meeting

Attending the meeting were members Art Legere, Helen Pettit, Susan Wydick, Jessica Campo and Tom Ogren. Brian Herzhauser and Rich Mowry were absent. Vice Chair Art Legere convened the meeting at 7:35 pm. The meeting was held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Approval of Minutes: Jessica made a motion, seconded by Sue, to approve the minutes of the August 26th meeting. All voted in favor.

New Business:

a. 39 York Street (Kalmia Club) - Tree Action Request: A representative of the Kalmia Club, Christine O'Donnell, requested that the large Red oak tree in front of the clubhouse be removed. Art mentioned that there was a proposal for the utility company to remove many branches from the tree and for the City to remove the rest of the tree (since the tree is on City-owned property). It was agreed that for now it was not necessary to remove the entire tree given only a few dead branches. nor was it necessary for the City to incur a substantial expense for removal. *Tom made a motion, seconded by Art, that the STC recommend to the City that the dead limbs be removed and that removal of the tree be deferred. All voted in favor.*

b. 21 York Street - Tree Action Request: Richard McDonough, property owner, submitted a request for tree removal and appeared at the meeting. He explained that two ash trees, one of which had a canopy extending over the sidewalk, were dying and should be removed. When asked, Mr. McDonough agreed to grind down the tree stump. *Art made a motion, seconded by Tom, that the owner be allowed to remove the ash tree with the canopy extending over the sidewalk. All voted in favor.*

c. 57 Perry Street - Tree Action Request: Homeowner Madeline Urbish submitted a request that a shade tree be planted in the sidewalk in front of her house. In order for a tree to be planted, a tree pit would have to be provided by cutting the sidewalk. *Art made a motion, seconded by Sue, that the STC would agree to plant a tree on the condition that the homeowner provide a tree pit. All voted in favor.*

d. 34 Elm Street - Tree Action Request: Homeowner Lindsay Hansche requested permission to trim branches of a Honeylocust tree in front of her house which extended over the roof. *Art made a motion, seconded by Sue, that the homeowner be allowed to trim tree branches overhanging her house. All voted in favor.*

e. 24 Bridge Street: It was brought to the attention of the STC that the Pin oak tree in the sidewalk at this commercial property was dying and had many dead limbs which were a safety concern. *The STC agree that a letter be sent to the property owner recommending that the tree be removed.*

Old Business:

a. 158-160 N. Union Street: Homeowner Peter Ammirati attended the meeting as a follow-up to his previously approved request to remove two small trees at the above addresses and plant two larger replacement trees. Mt. Ammirati indicated that he desired to plant one London Planetree and one Red or Willow oak that that the trees would be planted by Rutgers Landscaping in October. Art told Mr. Ammirati that the STC was no longer interested in transplanting the existing trees to be removed. *Art made a motion, seconded by Sue that Mr. Ammariti be allowed to plant any combination of London Plane, Red oak, and Willow oak trees at 158-160 N. Union Street to replace the two existing trees. All voted in favor.*

b. Church Street Tree Re-planting: Art proposed that the STC use funds budgeted this year for the planting of replacement trees on Church Street. Sue presented her plan to replace 14 trees on Church Street between N. Union Street and N. Main Street, and plant two additional trees at the corner of Church Street and N. Franklin Street. Sue's plan called for the planting of 11 American Hophornbeam trees (*Ostrya virginiana*) on the south side of Church Street and two Linden trees (*Tilia Americana* "Redmond") and one Sweetgum trees (*Liquidamber styraciflua* "Worplesdon") on the north side of Church Street, all between N. Union and N. Main Streets and all to be planted in existing tree pits. In addition, two Sweetgum trees would be planted at corner of Church and N. Franklin Streets. *Helen made a motion, seconded by Sue, that the STC request the City to solicit proposals and price quotes this year for the tree planting on Church Street as presented in Sue's plan. All voted in favor.*

c. Dead trees in the Downtown: Art mentioned that there were three small dead trees on N. Union Street recently planted by the City which should be replaced. The trees are located at 30 and 40 N. Union and at the NW corner of N. Union and Delevan Street. *The STC agreed to discuss this at the next meeting.*

d. Dead Ash Tree at the Public Library: Art mentioned that there was a dying ash tree on the City owned public library property along Ferry Street. It was agreed that the tree was hazardous and should be removed. *Tom made a motion, seconded by Art, that the STC request the City to remove the tree. All voted in favor.*

Public/Commission Member Comments:

Sue mentioned that there were several phones attached to a tree in front of the house at 120 N. Union Street. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Art mentioned that low branches on street trees needed to be cut. He obtained a cost estimate to do this on an hourly basis. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Tom mentioned that the N.J. Shade Tree Federation Conference is scheduled for the end of October and asked if anyone from the City would be going to receive Continuing Education credits (CEU's). He indicated that the credits are required for continued accreditation by the State Community Forestry Program. Sue mentioned that she had accumulated some CEU's this year but did not know how many. (The City is required to obtain 8 CEU's annually.) *It was suggested that Brian contact the Public Works Director to ask if anyone from his department*

would be going to the conference and determine if the City would meet the accreditation requirement.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Tom Ogren
Secretary