

**MEETING OF THE
BOROUGH OF WEST LONG BRANCH
SHADE TREE COMMISSION**

The Regular Meeting of the Shade Tree Commission (STC) of the Borough of West Long Branch was convened on October 14, 2021, in the Borough Hall Council Chambers.

Present: Ellen Whitford
Melanie Engel
Rachel McCarthy

Absent: Mary Lynn Mango (Council Liaison)

Shade Tree Commission Meeting 6:30 PM

A. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:57 pm.

B. Site Plan Review

1. There were three site plans this month. Updates captured in EC October 14 Minutes.

C. Shade Tree Administrative Matters:

1. Attendance: Ellen, Rachel and Melanie were in attendance.
2. It was determined that there were the following in-kind hours to be logged: EW (6) RM (4) ME (4).
3. September Minutes approved.

D. Unfinished Business:

1. Hazardous Tree Complaints
 - STC received a call from Mr. Van Brunt about three trees on Sycamore Ave. Ellen, Melanie and Rachel looked at the trees and they are pulling the sidewalk up out of the ground. Amanda Farrell and Jim Miller are also aware of the issue. Ellen sent an email recommending that the homeowner get an Arborist and included a list of registered Arborists in the email. Ellen also requested that if the homeowner decides to remove the trees, he needs to show the Zoning board that he has arborist certification of the trees being hazardous to avoid a fine.
 - Steve Cioffi told Ellen of an issue with Sycamore trees on Cedar Avenue that needs to be pruned. Homeowner believes JCPL should prune the trees. Steve said he will continue to work with JCPL on this issue.

- Rachel recommended an idea to include flyer on Tree Preservation ordinance in our the WLB yearly calendar mailing.
- 2. Hazardous Tree Removal Inventory
 - There is no update this month on this topic.
- 3. Owens Property
 - There is no update this month on this topic.
- 4. Web Site Updates
 - There is no update this month on this topic.
- 5. Arbor Day
 - There is no update this month on this topic.
- 6. Tree Identification for New Trees Planted
 - No update this month on this topic.
 - Previous update:
 - Ellen to look into how much the tree identification signs would cost.
 - A good example for a place for these signs is on corner of Locust and Throckmorton, as the tree has come in so nicely. After we get these signs, STC can post pictures on our website.
- 7. WLB Grant Discussion: Marylynn Mango, Matthew Sniffen
 - No update this month on this topic.
- 8. Mulching of New Trees
 - Ellen mentioned to Matthew Sniffen that WLB STC would like DPW to mulch trees with white tree guards. Matthew to follow up on this.
- 9. Tree Planting 2021
 - Ellen, Rachel, and Melanie to look at Thorne and Sorrentino parks to determine the trees that STC should plant there this Fall. As a follow up on this, Rachel mentioned the possibility of putting something in the back of Sorrentino, or even close to the playground.

E. New Business:

1. Matthew Sniffen asked Ellen if STC could redo landscaping at Valenzano Park Memorial for a Seton Hall University student who died in a fire in 2000. Ellen will arrange for STC to meet there with Matthew and Mary Lynn.
2. Ellen and Melanie to attend the New Jersey Shade Tree Annual Conference, October 21.

3. STC to get the word out about spotted Lantern Flies. If the masses are removed now, it can save them from coming back in the Spring. Rachel will find a flyer about how to deal with them this fall and Kellie to send on to post on WLB web site.

F. Public Comment

1. None

G. Meeting Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned by Ellen and approved by all at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kellie Campbell
STC Secretary