

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

The Regular Meeting of the Shade Tree Commission of the Borough of West Long Branch was convened on May 9, 2019 in the Borough Hall Council Chambers.

Present: Ellen Whitford
Rachel McCarthy
Eileen Cieri

Shade Tree Commission Meeting 6:30 PM

A. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

B. Administrative Matters:

- There were no Minutes to review currently.

B. Ongoing Business:

It was determined that there were the following in-kind hours to be logged: EC (1) EW (3) RM (4).

C. Old Business:

1. Arbor Day Seedlings – There are a lot of tree seedlings left over from Arbor Day. Carolyn is keeping them alive at her house. We should post this on Facebook and let Shore Regional High School know.

D. New Business:

Five Year Community Forestry Plan - We started work on review of the draft CMFP prepared by Mr. William Brash. Our consultant Mr. William Brash had asked us to review our priorities as he works on re-writing the plan for 2019-2023. We discussed the “Goals & Objectives” for our next five-year plan.

Goal #1 Manage Hazardous Trees – We need Core Training of our DPW staff. Also, we need communication for WLB Borough officials when they remove hazardous trees from public property or give notices to homeowners.

Goal #2 Increase Diversity of tree population throughout the Borough – We want to use our WLB web site to educate on appropriate tree species. We recommend computer links to the recommended Tree Species for WLB and include “Trees for NJ Streets.”

Goal #3 – Build on the relationship with Planning, Zoning & Dept of Public Works
Request Site plans monthly prior to our Shade tree/Environmental Commission meetings. This is not happening, we get the plans late or not at all. Communicate in writing any recommendations to the Boards. Attend meetings occasionally as needed or requested.

- E. Goal # 4: Improve Tree Identification skills of Shade Tree Commission/Dept of Public Works.
We'd like to eliminate this goal. We have a "Leaf Snap" computer application but often it does not work, it's still hard to identify.
- F. Goal #5 Make better use of Owens Nursery on Wall Street – We are not able to create a parking area per the regulations of the Owens Conservation Easement. We like to improve the front of the site by the sign on Wall Street – to create a Butterfly Garden in front. We need to create a written plan, and this was recommended by the Owens Conservation staff when they came to our meeting last year. We want to have a certain area of "NO MOW ZONE" to create a wildflower garden meadow. We could include birdhouses to sustain wildlife.
- G. Organizational Chart on page 8 – we need to ask our CEO Ms. Stephanie Miller for an updated chart.
- H. Meeting Announcements – We would like to request that the Shade Tree Commission Meetings be posted on the Neon Sign outside the WLB Borough Hall building on Broadway. We are also looking for new members and this may attract people to attend a meeting.
- E. Public Comment - None
- F. Meeting Adjournment
 - The meeting was adjourned by Ellen and approved by all at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ellen Whitford
STC Chairperson