

**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 January 14, 2021 in the Borough Hall Council Chambers.

Present: Ellen Whitford
Rachel McCarthy
Melanie Engel

Absent: Mary Lynn Mango (Council Liaison)

Shade Tree Commission Meeting 6:30 PM

A. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:51 pm.

B. Site Plan Review

1. There were 2 site plans this month reviewed with Environmental Committee.
 - STC wrote a letter to take the Ash trees off the plan a year ago, January 9, 2020. STC has not received any update on that to date.

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 (3) RM (1) ME (3).
3. November 12th Minutes were reviewed and approved.

D. Unfinished Business:

1. New Tree Planting for 2020
 - Five trees were planted in December.
2. Hazardous Tree Complaints
 - There was a complaint received regarding a tree on 43 Hendrickson. Amanda Farrell referred this to STC.
 - From November: There is a tree removal issue that needs to be taken care of on Hendrickson Ave. Ellen received an email about this on November 2 from Amanda Farrell (WLB Borough) because the property owner took down more trees than were approved by permit. The homeowner also took

trees down on a property that they do not own. STC was asked by Amanda to help put together a tree preservation plan for trees that are removed. STC will try to meet Amanda on the property within the next few weeks.

- Our update in January 2021: Melanie and Ellen met with Amanda Farrell and a Landscaper. The Landscaper put together a recommendation that went to WLB Code Enforcement. Following this, the Homeowner sent a letter to Ellen announcing that he did not want to follow the recommendation and asked STC to respond. Ellen spoke with Amanda and was advised by Amanda to bring to STC. Ellen shared the letter with STC for discussion. STC decided that the code enforcement decision should stand to follow the tree replacement plan presented by the landscaper.
 - Stephanie Miller and Jim Miller are handling a previous Mr. Denman issue.
- 3. Owens Property
 - STC to draft a letter or email to WLB Borough to be involved in activities related to Grant Money received from a recent NJ Grant. The Grant was referenced in a recent article: <https://patch.com/new-jersey/littlesilver/oceanport-gets-150-000-make-community-center-park-upgrades>

E. New Business:

1. Tree City USA Conference
 - Ellen received an email noting that this will be remote, will be held on February 10, 17 and 24 and will free of charge this year. Ellen sent this email to STC, to register if they can attend.

F. Public Comment

1. None

G. Meeting Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned by Ellen and approved by all at 7:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kellie Campbell

STC Secretary