

FAIR HAVEN SHADE TREE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

February 7, 2024, 7:30pm HYBRID: In person at Borough Hall and via Zoom

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87355233277> \ Dial In: 1 646 518 9805 \ Webinar ID: 873 5523 3277

1. Call to Order @ 7:32pm
2. Sunshine Law Notice, C. Larsen
3. Roll Call:

Present: Christian Larsen, Peter D'Agati, Kevin McGovern, Jill Sullivan, Bonnie Torcivia, Christopher McCabe, Borough Secretary Krystie Larsen

Absent: Michael D'Angelo, Leah Beganie, Michael Hoey, Councilman Brian Olson

4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes (January 3, 2024): All in favor.
6. Project Updates

a. NJUCF Tree Inventory Grant: Jill Sullivan

J. Sullivan reviewed the Davey Tree and Arbor Pro tree inventory proposals with the Commission. Arbor Pro proposal was more favorable with 2,600 trees inventoried plus the initial year of software and tree inventory summary (required by the grant) included. Davey Tree was not able to counteroffer. Arbor Pro software demo will be held with Boro staff next week. Through this process, J. Sullivan now recommends that an additional inventory may need to be done in order to evaluate growth/trends/health status of trees. This would be faster/easier and more cost effective if the Borough maintains the software. She also believes this information will be useful when writing the Community Forestry Management Plan. In Fair Haven's five-year plan, STC should also consider forest sampling. K. McGovern asked if Fair Haven can apply for another grant to finish the inventory if 2,600 trees is not the entire inventory? J. Sullivan replied that partial inventories do count for accreditation and grant purposes. K. McGovern asked if fundraising was allowed to complete the inventory? C. Larsen would consider the inventory an operating expense and would ask Council to consider funding.

b. Resident Tree Buying Program: Jill Sullivan

J. Sullivan is working on the brochure for marketing the spring resident March 4-25 orders, orders to Fernbrook March 29. Planting mid-May. K. Larsen to create google order form. J. Sullivan is not sure a tree giveaway contest is an appropriate cross-promotion for the Resident Tree Buying program. P. D'Agati agrees that the messaging is tricky. B. Torcivia asked about a remembrance tree for the Garden Club of Fair Haven potentially in the Third Street Trail. J. Sullivan to follow-up with Fernbrook on any planting limitations.

c. Green Team and Natural Area Update: Bonnie Torcivia

The Pollinator Garden sign in the Third Street Trail was approved by Council and will be planted in the spring through the Sustainable Jersey Grant. Love Where You Live Day will be May 5; B. Torcivia would like to discuss what STC can do to engage visitors. An evaluation was conducted related to invasive species in Fair Haven and a key takeaway is Fair Haven's deer problem. B. Torcivia ordered the seedlings that will be planted or residents can take home during a

Volunteer Day April 27 for Arbor Day. This year is the 50th Anniversary of FHFNAAC and the Committee is working on a way to celebrate.

- d. Community Outreach: Leah Beganie
- Ivy Awareness: Chris McCabe

B. Torcivia suggested a posting about the mitigation of ivy on trees.

- e. Fighting Climate Change at Home Lecture: Chris Larsen and Bonnie Torcivia

C. Larsen reviewed key takeaways from Dr. Doug Tallamy's seminar at Monmouth University. J. Sullivan believed the message was to take responsibility for yourself and your yard. B. Torcivia added that private land well exceeds public land in the world, so everyone needs to do their part. K. Larsen will scan material to STC members, as well as a CEU opportunity where this speaker will be in March.

- f. Christmas Tree Replacement: Mike Hoey

Absent.

- g. Salem Oak Trees: Bonnie Torcivia

B. Torcivia is trying to schedule the planting of the Salem Oak Trees with Principal Schwartz on Arbor Day.

- h. Arbor Day: Mike D'Angelo

In M. D'Angelo's absence, C. Larsen reviewed the planned program at Fair Haven Library for younger children.

- i. Habitat for Humanity Property Tree Removal: Chris Larsen

STC reviewed Shari Spero's report re: tree removal for the Hendrickson Place subdivision lots. C. Larsen thought the memo determined a majority of the trees on the property were in disrepair. K. Larsen noted the Borough is obligated to deliver a shovel ready lot to Habitat for Humanity. B. Torcivia suggested the Garden Club of Fair Haven can possibly help with new plantings, as they do a lot of planting for Habitat for Humanity.

- j. 2024 STC Calendar: Peter D'Agati

P. D'Agati created a STC calendar and reviewed key dates with Commissioners, asking for input. K. Larsen to circulate the calendar with next month's meeting materials. B. Torcivia suggested a tree planting date. She suggested adding trees near the playground at the Community Center. J. Sullivan noted there were trees removed on Maple Ave that were not replaced. C. Larsen suggested this could be done as part of the Fall Resident Tree Buying program. K. Larsen to speak with Parks & Rec Director about plans for the playground area.

- k. Tree Removal Permit Data, Accreditation: Krystie Larsen

STC reviewed the cumulative 2023 tree permit data and YTD 2024. The Commission was skeptical about how tree replacements are enforced and hopes the new Tree Ordinance will help. C. Larsen suggested speaking with Councilman Olson about this.

I. Council and Tree Preservation Ordinance Update: Councilman Olson
Absent.

7. Proposed New Agenda Items

None.

8. Public Participation

None.

9. Adjournment @ 9:03pm