

# FAIR HAVEN SHADE TREE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 2, 2022, 7:30pm via Zoom

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

Present: D'Agati, D'Angelo, Hoey, Larsen, McCabe, Paolo, Reid, Sullivan, Councilwoman Tracy Cole, Councilwoman Laline Neff, Borough Liaison Krystie Larsen

Absent: Beganie

4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes (February 2, 2022). All in favor.
6. Project Updates

- a. Tree Ordinance Review (D'Angelo)

K. Larsen circulated the key issues document to the Commission to review. M. D'Angelo identified the items the new ordinance will address: Prohibited activity, Permit application fee changes, Building Footprint - "Don't create a hazard condition", Tree Escrow Fund, Mitigation/Replacement Tree Plan - increase DBH Requirement and Enforcement, Protection of Existing Trees. Next steps are to meet with Borough Attorney Cannon and Planning and Zoning Chair Todd Lehder to vet before bringing to Council workshop. L. Neff believes the Bradley Beach ordinance is a good example as it deals with smaller lot size vs. Rumson. T. Cole asked the STC about its role on public vs. private property and reminded STC that it has power and authority, per the statute. D. Paolo will consider the STC role, but is being mindful of the burden on members, as hearing Tree Appeals could result in a larger workload, especially once the new ordinance takes effect. He polled Commission members and no one was against adding this responsibility to the Commission. T. Cole believes it will take 90 days to get the new ordinance adopted – should we put a moratorium on tree removal until then? Commission members were not in favor of that.

- b. Arbor Day Celebration (D'Angelo)

Arbor Day is April 29. The Borough library has an Arbor Day program set-up for Sickles students and Knollwood will do the poster contest again.

- c. Green Team and Eco Fair (Reid)

The Spring Sustainability Fair will be May 14 at Bicentennial Hall or Knights of Columbus from 10a-3pm. It will be educational and family friendly. What does STC want to do? If at Bic Hall, D. Paolo suggested recognizing the Bicentennial trees there. L. Neff noted the Facilities Committee is aware of the desire to protect these trees. D. Paolo and A. Reid will discuss how to represent STC offline: possibly a raffle, fun facts or did you know game and/or giveaway for the fair. T. Cole and K. Larsen to review raffle process/license. J. Sullivan noted Dermer Dreams is also May 14.

A. Reid is also working on the Hazard Tree section of the Sustainable Jersey application due in June and will review data needed with K. Larsen.

d. Social Media (Beganie & Hoey)

K. Hoey discussed the following upcoming social media topics: Earth Day, Arbor Day, Invasives, Sustainability Fair, Spotted Lantern Fly, Big Tree Hunt.

e. Tree Inventory (Sullivan)

J. Sullivan has settled on the scope of the project and is now discussing it with vendors to get proposals.

f. Plaque at Denormandie Park (Reid)

A. Reid visited the vendor and selected a stake to be put in front of the tree; pricing is \$500-600. She asked who will be paying for the plaque? D. Paolo thought the Borough should, not Shade Tree Budget. T. Cole asked her to send the information.

g. Kwanzan Cherry Tree Giveaway on Fair Haven Road (D'Agati)

P. D'Agati spoke with B. Brooks who asked him to consider all trees vs. Kwanzan Cherrys. He referenced a list of native trees on the Red Bank Shade Tree site to research. L. Neff suggested targeting the builder of two new homes to start the planting near the FH natural area. T. Cole asked who would be maintaining the trees? D. Paolo said he and C. Larsen discussed owner property vs. in Borough ROW and they believe the owner property is best, in the front yard to maintain the iconic look of the street. P. D'Agati cautioned the timing to source and plant for spring.

h. Sportsman Field east tree line (Paolo)

No update.

i. Fair Haven Field Natural Area firewood project (McCabe)

C. McCabe spoke with Council President Rodriguez about the process and he is in favor of it. Possibly move from two to four clean-ups of the natural area and incorporate the firewood component. T. Cole offered to also speak with Engineering and DPW. Next step is for C. McCabe to speak with other committees such as Natural Area and Rec about the project.

i. 2022 Big Tree Hunt (Paolo)

No date has been published yet.

k. Updates from Borough Tree Specialist, Bill Brooks

D. Paolo relayed that the Liberty Elms from the Tree Giveaway will be planted this spring. K. Larsen to follow-up on using Shade Tree Trust Fund for purchase.

#### 8. Proposed New Agenda Items

- Spotted Lanternfly education
- Invasives education

D. Paolo said these are timely topics to educate the public on via social media.

#### 7. Public Participation

Bonnie Torcivia agreed that educating the public, encouraging more tree planting and why trees are so important would be great representation for the STC at the Sustainability Fair. She urged the Commission to consider native trees vs. Japanese Kwanzan Cherrys on Fair Haven Road – why plant a tree with a lifespan of 20-30 years when it could be 100 – we should be planting for generations to come. D. Paolo said there is momentum with the Kwanzan cherrys, but is open to native flowering trees that look similar to Kwanzan cherrys to complete the iconic look. P. D’Agati will reach out to Ms. Torcivia to discuss.

Ms. Torcivia encouraged the Commission to take the next walking tour of the Natural Area with the certified Rutgers specialist – it was very informative pertaining to trees, invasives, etc.

#### 9. Adjournment @ 8:57pm