

# FAIR HAVEN SHADE TREE COMMISSION (“STC”) MEETING MINUTES

September 7, 2022, 7:30pm via Zoom

1. Call to Order @ 7:32 pm

2. Sunshine Law Notice, D. Paolo

3. Roll Call:

Present: Beganie, D’Agati, D’Angelo, Hoey, McCabe, Paolo, Reid, Sullivan, Councilwoman Tracy Cole, Borough Secretary Krystie Larsen

Absent: Chris Larsen, Councilwoman Laline Neff

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes (August 3, 2022): All in favor.

6. Project Updates

a. Tree Ordinance Review, Mike D’Angelo

Borough Tree Specialist Bill Brooks is drafting a summary of comments. Next step is the Ordinance draft will go to Council for review, then to the Planning Board. It is not on the Council agenda yet, but Councilwoman Cole thinks the timing is still 2022. Councilwoman Cole requested the Commission to sign-off on the ordinance at the October 5 STC meeting. She will ask Attorney Cannon to prepare a one-page summary to help the Commission understand all of the changes, as it is lengthy.

b. Green Team Liaison, Dave Paolo

D. Paolo is seeking a STC member to serve as the Green Team liaison to replace Andrea Reid. If interested, please speak with Dave offline.

c. Tree Inventory, Jill Sullivan

Davey Tree is the sole bid at present. J. Sullivan would like to do a sampling of Borough trees to gauge rough numbers, as the cost increases per tree after 5,000 trees. She spoke to Administrator Casagrande regarding volunteers doing the sampling in certain areas (McCarter Park, Right of Ways). She is able to segregate areas by mileage. D. Paolo suggested engaging Councilman Rodriguez, as the Scouts may be able to help. J. Sullivan assumes that STC would apply for the NJUCF grant to help fund this project, but that puts an inventory on the late 2023 timeframe at best. J. Sullivan noted that Community Forestry Management Plans are lumped with Inventories for a grant. Councilwoman Cole noted that if the project exceeds \$6,500, a bid process would be required by the Borough.

d. Social Media, Leah Beganie & Kristen Hoey

112 followers. Spotted lantern fly material was posted and will continue to be a campaign, so long as it is a problem.

e. 2021 Tree Giveaway/Hance Rd winner, Dave Paolo

D. Paolo reached out to registered vendors, has a quote for \$700-1,000 to get a sugar maple planted. C. McCabe suggested contacting Priveteras, since they did all the recent tree planting in the natural area for the Eagle Scout projects. Councilwoman Cole suggested finding a new vendor that specializes in native trees in our area, using natural practices. She thought the Shade Tree Commission should research and offer a preferred vendor list. K. Hoey suggested soil testing before planting, as that was an issue that arose in the Natural Area.

f. Kwanzan Cherry Tree Giveaway on Fair Haven Road, Peter D'Agati

P. D'Agati and L. Beganie created a one-page informational flyer to use when canvassing Fair Haven Road for suitable Cherry tree locations. Administrator Casagrande provided feedback that P. D'Agati will discuss with Bill Brooks.

g. Sportsman Field east tree line, Dave Paolo

Construction has begun on the new homes. M. D'Angelo will contact the Board of Education Business Administrator David Joye to discuss the property line and potential project.

h. Native Species List Project, Peter D'Agati & Chris Larsen

No new update. C. McCabe circulated the website Mark Olson created regarding Native Trees and projects in Fair Haven. Councilwoman Cole suggested promoting this website from the Borough Website; K. Larsen to discuss with the Administrator.

i. 2023 STC Budget Discussion/Trust, Dave Paolo

Councilwoman Cole suggested STC come up with a budget request for 2023 by creating an Action Plan. K. Larsen to follow-up with members on their projects to gauge cost and priorities and compile them for the next meeting. Councilwoman Cole noted the list should include any resources needed to complete the CFMP, Ordinance, professional membership(s) and planting goals.

j. Street Tree Replacement Project, Dave Paolo

D. Paolo believes this project can be part of the 2023 Action Plan.

k. Doorknob Hanger for Resident Awareness, Leah Beganie

L. Beganie received a quote for \$412 for 2,200 doorhangers. Content will be related to Ivy, how to properly trim tress and carbon release. The Commission unanimously voted to approve \$500 in funds for door hangers. K. Larsen to coordinate purchase and suggested collaborating with the Green Team on distribution, as they are planning a sticker campaign.

l. Updates from Borough Tree Specialist, Bill Brooks

JCP&L transmission wire tree trimming is still ongoing. There is public upset for the lost trees at Red Bank Regional High School (in Little Silver). Councilwoman Cole is hopeful there is a replacement plan and urged STC to be involved in the process to protect all Fair Haven trees.

m. Council Update, Councilwoman Cole & Councilwoman Neff

Councilwoman Cole noted she is working with Mike Nitka to write a letter to the Board of Public Utilities to express outrage with the Red Bank Regional High School tree cutting. They are advocating for a clear radius of cutting around wires versus removal.

7. Proposed New Agenda Items

- STC Vote on Tree Ordinance
- Community Forestry Management Plan due 2024; consultant solicitation
- 2023 Action Plan

8. Public Participation

Bonnie Torcivia encouraged STC members to read the ordinance. She feels a Native Tree list should be included. She believes Sickles Market is a good vendor for natives. She believes developers who clear cut properties, should be required to replant all new trees, in kind. She believes that not all trees are dead on the Sportsman Field property line and some trees are worth saving. She believes a townwide leaf cleanup is a great way to improve soil content and help new tree plantings. She noted there should be no Pear trees on River Road and they should be replaced with something worthwhile and slow growing to alleviate transmission wire issues in the future. She thinks STC should add the Top 5 Native trees to the doorhanger design.

9. Adjournment @ 9:14pm

***\*\* Next Shade Tree Commission Meeting is October 5, 2022\*\****



**THIS IS THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SHADE TREE COMMISSION OF THE BOROUGH OF FAIR HAVEN.**

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, PUBLIC MEETINGS MAY BE HELD IN PERSON OR BY MEANS OF COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT TO INCLUDE STREAMING SERVICES AND OTHER ONLINE MEETING PLATFORMS (NJSA 10:4-8(b)).**

**THIS MEETING IS BEING PRESENTED THROUGH THE ZOOM MEETING PLATFORM. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR THIS SEPTEMBER 7, 2022 SHADE TREE COMMISSION MEETING IS AVAILABLE BY CALL IN PHONE NUMBER OR THROUGH WEB CONFERENCE (ZOOM). MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL BE ON MUTE UNTIL THE PORTION FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS/COMMENTS, WHICH WILL BE ANNOUNCED. AT THAT TIME THE PUBLIC HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO QUESTION/COMMENT BY PHONE OR THROUGH ZOOM BY THE "RAISE HAND" BUTTON AND WILL BE CALLED ON AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME.**

**NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS SENT TO THE ASBURY PARK PRESS, THE TWO RIVER TIMES AND THE STAR LEDGER ON JANUARY 28, 2022, POSTED ON THE BOROUGH WEBSITE, THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND HAS REMAINED CONTINUOUSLY POSTED AS REQUIRED UNDER THE STATUTE.**

**WITH ADEQUATE NOTICE HAVING BEEN GIVEN, THE SHADE TREE COMMISSION SECRETARY IS DIRECTED TO INCLUDE THIS STATEMENT IN THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING.**