

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

October 5, 2022, 7:30pm via Zoom

1. Call to Order @ 7:34pm

2. Sunshine Law Notice, D. Paolo

3. Roll Call

Present: Leah Beganie, Kristen Hoey, Chris Larsen, Chris McCabe, Dave Paolo, Andrea Reid, Jill Sullivan, Councilwoman Tracy Cole, Borough Secretary Krystie Larsen

Absent: Mike D’Angelo, Peter D’Agati

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes (September 7, 2022): All in favor

6. Project Updates

a. Tree Ordinance Review, Mike D’Angelo

- STC Vote on Ordinance

L. Beganie asked if Shade Tree Commission will have to meet more than once a month so the application window doesn’t exceed 30 days? D. Paolo said STC will continue to meet once a month and the attorney will add language to the ordinance to allow for this window, noting Hazard tree situations may be escalated. L. Beganie asked if there is penalty language for drip line disturbances? Councilwoman Cole said it was not addressed and that it is an issue of enforcement and will fall under the duties of the Tree Conservation Officer. C. Larsen asked if there is a timeline mandated for replanting trees? Councilwoman Cole said that would be part of the resolution compliance process at the Borough. D. Paolo provided comments from Borough Tree Specialist Bill Brooks: he doesn’t agree with the Bradley Beach ordinance being used as a basis because the topography, species content and soil composition is very different. Councilwoman Cole responded that the Bradley Beach ordinance was developed in response to a large loss of trees in the town and Fair Haven is in a similar situation. There is a funding mechanism (Shade Tree Trust) where tree bank funds will be held. Bill Brooks also noted the building envelope should be more prominent. Councilwoman Cole responded that the Planning Board attorney was involved in the working group.

D. Paolo made a motion to advance the draft of the Tree Preservation Ordinance to Council; All in favor.

b. Green Team Liaison, Dave Paolo

Chris McCabe will serve as the STC liaison to the Green Team.

c. Tree Inventory, Jill Sullivan

The Stewardship Grant for Tree inventories is not available until spring. Matching hours won’t count unless the grant is secured and minor age hours are aggregated at a lower rate. Next step is to elevate the need for an RFP to Council. Councilwoman Cole asked if there was a cost savings to disjoin the CFMP and Tree Inventory? J. Sullivan said if we have to wait for the new guidelines, it moves the project to 2025. Also, while there may be some cost savings in professional services to combine, the Inventory is estimated at \$20,000 and the CFMP at \$2,000. There may be additional grants

available for the CFMP once the Inventory is established. Councilwoman Cole asked how the tree inventory is monitored over time? J. Sullivan responded that the software package populates everything about the tree from planting to maintenance, so overtime it is a tool for the town to use and monitor.

d. Community Forestry Management Plan/Consultant Solicitation, Kristen Hoey

K. Hoey was advised by NJUCF to hold off on updating the CFMP until the new guidelines are available. There may be a grant available to help pay for the update.

e. Social Media, Leah Beganie & Kristen Hoey

123 followers. L. Beganie has graphics ready for fall and lantern fly. A. Reid will send a picture of the DeNormandie Tree plaque to post.

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

- Vote on awarding contract for fall planting

D. Paolo solicited bids and received one proposal from Absolute Quality Landscaping who is already registered with the Borough. Quote is \$980 for each tree, need two trees- Sugar Maples. Councilwoman Cole asked if there were power lines near the planting site? D. Paolo said the trees will be planted outside the ROW so they are on private property.

C. McCabe mentioned if D. Paolo wanted to solicit an additional quote, the Natural Area recently used Privetera's Nursery to plant trees with Eagle Scouts.

A vote was held to award a contract to Absolute Quality Landscape to purchase and install two sugar maples at 131 Hance Road; all members in favor.

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

Absent.

h. Sportsman Field east tree line, Dave Paolo

K. Larsen read an update from M. D'Angelo in his absence:

I spoke to Shari Spero, Tree Expert, regarding those dead/dying Ash trees along the field. Regarding replacements- I just looked at street view and wanted to mention, I would not try and match the sugar maples along 3rd as this is really a species not recommended anymore due to the warming temperatures. It needs cold and really hasn't been performing well recently. However, there is a sawtooth oak as the last tree planted that you could continue with. Other good choices since you have the open space for a large species- London Plane, Swamp White Oak, Tulip tree and American Elm. As much as everyone loves to plant bigger trees for quick impact, I would recommend somewhere in the range of 1.75-2" caliper. Smaller trees usually establish faster than larger ones due to the stress of root loss when dug.

This report has conflicting information on sugar maples being native and their viability. D. Paolo to follow-up with Ms. Spero prior to awarding the Tree Giveaway.

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

C. Larsen said his Native Species lists are voluminous and somewhat conflicting. He will circulate the information to the Commission.

j. 2023 STC Action Plan/Budget Discussion, Dave Paolo

- Street Tree Replacement Project

K. Larsen sent D. Paolo the estimated budget line items by project from Commission members. He noted the Commission will continue to evaluate goals for 2023.

k. Doorknob Hanger for Resident Awareness, Leah Beganie

L. Beganie shared her screen to show the design mock-up for door hangers. The Commission provided feedback, adding a "Did You Know?". A. Reid asked if distributing door hangers is creating more trash and should be reconsidered? J. Sullivan said STC should pilot the project this year, then decide if it should be an annual educational awareness project depending on feedback. Councilwoman Cole suggested looking at a mail delivery, possibly in conjunction with the Green Team recycling stickers. J. Sullivan believes it will not be difficult to get volunteers to help distribute and STC believes the read-rate will be higher with a doorhanger vs. mail.

l. Updates from Borough Tree Specialist, Bill Brooks

Wire trimming by Aspen Tree is almost done. Mr. Brooks was able to use discretion to save a large white oak on Ridge Road near the Natural Area.

m. Council Update, Councilwoman Cole & Councilwoman Neff

Councilwoman Cole shared that she is part of the Borough's Communications and Outreach team and can help get STC information out.

7. Proposed New Agenda Items

- 2023 STC Meeting Dates/Calendar

8. Public Participation

C. McCabe asked about the two healthy black Oak trees at the Sunoco station? D. Paolo noted that the Planning Board debated with M&M builder to replace them with four trees in town, as the priority was to solve the Borough's affordable housing situation.

Bonnie Torcivia suggested adding definitions to the Ordinance as well as a recommended tree list and native tree list. She mentioned the Native Plant Society has a good list to reference. She suggested adding dripline language and an example calculation to help residents/builders determine it.

Carolyn Ferguson introduced herself as the Natural Area chairperson. She believes there is a lot of overlap with the Commission and they can collaborate on issues such as tree sourcing, native species and invasives. She believes social media is a way to reach a broad audience and perhaps there can be one social media account that encompasses all. She recommends using the Community Appeal funds effectively. She created a short Natural Area Handbook to help get new members up to speed. She recommended presenting an Annual report to Council each year to increase the Commission's visibility. The Natural Area may be willing to work with STC on the Kwanzan Cherry trees on Fair Haven Road project.

9. Adjournment @ 9:36pm

***** Next Shade Tree Commission Meeting is November 2, 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 OCTOBER 5, 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.