

FAIR HAVEN SHADE TREE COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

December 7, 2022, 7:30pm via Zoom

1. Call to Order @ 7:32pm

2. Sunshine Law Notice, D. Paolo

3. Roll Call:

Present: Peter D'Agati, Mike D'Angelo, Kristen Hoey, Chris Larsen, Dave Paolo, Andrea Reid, Jill Sullivan (joined 8:20pm), Councilwoman Tracy Cole, Borough Secretary Krystie Larsen

Absent: Leah Beganie, Chris McCabe, Councilwoman Laline Neff

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes (November 2, 2022): All in favor.

6. Project Updates

a. Green Team Update, Chris McCabe

Absent.

b. Tree Inventory, Jill Sullivan

J. Sullivan sent a memo to Council on behalf of STC requesting to perform an RFP for a Tree Inventory. An inventory was also added to the 2023 Proposed STC Budget. Councilwoman Cole advised that procedurally the first step is it will be workshopped on the Council Agenda. An RFP is needed to apply for the grant and to issue an RFP there needs to be a commitment from the Governing Body to pursue a Tree Inventory. She also noted it is not a foreign concept to do an RFP that hinges on a grant. J. Sullivan said there is a NJUCF grant available in May for the inventory, but the Borough/STC would need to meet the matching component (or volunteer hours), but it doesn't begin to accrue until the grant is awarded. The grant will be awarded in September.

c. Social Media, Leah Beganie & Kristen Hoey

Graphics around Big Tree award posted.

d. New Tree Giveaway, Dave Paolo

STC members reviewed submissions of locations for a new tree giveaway in 2023:

- A continuation along Hance in the area of Parker Ave. They've lost so many shade trees there due to Emerald Ash Borer.
- Second Street, west of Hance: Hurricane Sandy damaged trees need to be replaced.
- 174-176 Fair Haven Road- replace due to fire
- New addition of Sickles School is bare and can use shade trees
- 46 Church Street

Members are asked to review the sites and will vote in January. K. Larsen to ask Board of Education about future replanting plans for Sickles School. Councilwoman Cole suggested keeping these submissions on a list for potential future plantings.

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

There are five cherry trees in the ground at 302-306 Fair Haven Road. Targeting ten new locations to plant in the spring 2023. \$4,500 was included in the STC 2023 proposed budget for this project.

f. Sportsman Field east tree line, Mike D'Angelo

K. Larsen updated the Commission that the Board of Education submitted a tree removal application for five Ash Trees and one American Linden Tree on the border of Sportsman Field; the permit was granted. M. D'Angelo spoke to Administrator David Joye about the project and said they would be removed during Christmas break.

g. Native Species List Project, Chris Larsen

C. Larsen's list was circulated to the Commission. D. Paolo asked why White and Black Oak trees and Sycamores are not on the list, as he has observed many in town. C. Larsen noted they were not as prominent in his research/favorable as others and he is trying to keep the list very succinct. Councilwoman Cole believes this list should be evolving and provide residents with an encompassing look, so can be an organic document. P. D'Agati suggested adding a section for "Giant Tree" classification.

h. Doorknob Hanger for Resident Awareness, Leah Beganie

K. Larsen gave an update that this project was moved to 2023 since the spend can not be approved until there is a distribution plan.

i. Eagle Scout Project Tree Sponsor: \$200 spend, to be voted on, Dave Paolo

D. Paolo held a vote to determine if STC would sponsor a \$200 Red Oak tree in the Third Street Trail area. All members in favor. K. Larsen to work with Mark Olson on a purchase order.

j. Sunoco/M&M Realty Replacement Tree Planting, Dave Paolo

D. Paolo provided background on the Sunoco station: two Black Oaks will be removed as part of a Planning Board resolution for affordable housing. The negotiation resulted in four, four-inch DBH trees to be planted in the Borough. D. Paolo recommended planting in Sportsman Field since those trees are coming down. Councilwoman Cole suggested looking at the bordering new construction home's landscape plan, in case the builder is covering the property line already; K. Larsen to send the plans out. Councilwoman Cole noted there are not many large trees in the business district and it would be nice to keep them in the neighborhood.

k. 2023 STC Action Plan, Dave Paolo

D. Paolo shared his screen with the 2023 Action Plan he drafted. K. Larsen suggested adding member training, accreditation, Big Tree Hunt and the Tree Preservation Ordinance. J. Sullivan suggested adding the tree inventory software. M. D'Angelo asked if this document should be forward thinking, or if an annual snapshot, Arbor Day and Love Where You Live Day should be included. K. Larsen will circulate to members to discuss at the January meeting.

l. Updates from Borough Tree Specialist, Bill Brooks

No new updates.

m. Council Update, Councilwoman Cole & Councilwoman Neff

December 19 is the last Council meeting for 2022 and Councilwoman Cole would like to report STC top three accomplishments/recap. D. Paolo responded while there are many contributions by members, Tree Ordinance, Tree Inventory research and tree planting projects are most significant.

7. Proposed New Agenda Items

None.

8. Public Participation

Bonnie Torcivia thanked the STC for adopting a tree in the Third Street trail; there are now 55 assorted native trees planted there in 2022. She believes the more native trees, the better, on the native tree list. She suggested looking at Mark Olson's list for reference. She lamented the loss of the Sunoco trees. She asked for further description of the trees to be taken down on Sportsman Field: K. Larsen noted the permit was for five Ash trees and one American Linden on the field side of the fence. Councilwoman Cole suggested using the Boro's tree permit data for the inventory, as it could be valuable.

D. Paolo announced his resignation from Shade Tree Commission, effective January 2023. He thanked the Commission for their volunteerism and work over the past few years.

9. Adjournment @ 8:54pm