

# FAIR HAVEN SHADE TREE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

November 2, 2022, 7:30pm via Zoom

1. Call to Order @ 7:35pm

2. Sunshine Law Notice, D. Paolo

3. Roll Call

Present: Leah Beganie, Peter D'Agati, Kristen Hoey, Chris Larsen, Chris McCabe, Dave Paolo, Jill Sullivan, Councilwoman Tracy Cole, Borough Secretary Krystie Larsen

Absent: Mike D'Angelo, Andrea Reid, Councilwoman Laline Neff

4. Pledge of Allegiance

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

6. Project Updates

a. Green Team Update, Chris McCabe

C. McCabe did not attend the Green Team meeting this month, so no update. He attended the Natural Area Walk and discussed with D. Paolo his concern of overlap among Commissions/Committees in the Boro in relation to projects and grants and perhaps more efficiencies can be yielded. Councilwoman Cole said as a Liaison, she would warn of any redundancies.

b. Tree Inventory, Jill Sullivan

J. Sullivan wrote a memo to the Governing Body to create an RFP for a Tree Inventory in 2023. Kristen Hoey asked if there are any grant resources she should look into for the CFMP? D. Paolo said they would discuss it offline.

c. Social Media, Leah Beganie & Kristen Hoey

127 followers. Need a picture of the tree plaque at DeNormandie Park for content.

d. 2021 Tree Giveaway Update, Dave Paolo

D. Paolo connected the contractor Absolute Landscaping with the property owner to schedule the planting. The two trees will be on the property, out of right-of-way so the homeowner will be responsible for maintenance.

e. New Tree Giveaway, Dave Paolo

D. Paolo suggested a new Tree Giveaway for 2023, with spring planting. Councilwoman Cole asked if STC has considered approaching barren areas of town versus asking for resident submissions? D. Paolo agreed that is a good strategy and asked Commission members to send Krystie Larsen their street/property/neighborhood recommendation before the next meeting and she will collate responses to present at the December meeting.

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

P. D'Agati created a brochure to market the project to residents, but questions arose at the Borough level: the right-of-way calculations need to be done on a house-by-house basis to ensure they are on private property. At this point, a spring planting is targeted, which has a more favorable survival rate.

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

Absent.

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

Chris Larsen sent the list to D. Paolo and K. Larsen for review. D. Paolo asked K. Larsen to send it to Commission members to review and vote at the next meeting to publish on the Boro website.

i. Doorknob Hanger for Resident Awareness, Leah Beganie

L. Beganie asked the vendor about using recycled paper and it was double the cost to produce the door hangers. To bring the cost back down, the vendor suggested using thinner paper (but would still be sufficient for a doorhanger). She inquired about adding a square/QR link to accept donations, as the STC can receive donations directly to the Shade Tree Trust Fund. K. Larsen to look into it, but currently Borough Hall does not accept credit cards via website. J. Sullivan noted she would still add the Community Appeal as an option to donate since residents are familiar with that process.

j. Vote on 2023 Meeting Dates, Dave Paolo

The first Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm with the exception of summer recess in August was voted on for 2023 meeting dates.

D. Paolo asked K. Larsen for an update on STC standing for certifications and CEUs. K. Larsen said STC has the full amount of CEUs required for this year and the Arbor Day/Tree City USA and NJUCF Annual Reports are due February 15, 2023.

k. 2023 STC Action Plan, Dave Paolo

Councilwoman Cole and D. Paolo will discuss next steps offline.

l. Updates from Borough Tree Specialist, Bill Brooks

D. Paolo informed the Commission that Borough Forrester Bill Brooks and Borough Tree Consultant Shari Spero had a productive meeting regarding the Tree Preservation ordinance. The Mayor noted the Borough received feedback from implementation from both parties, but we need to do what is best for the Borough.

Tree Preservation Ordinance was discussed in the Workshop session at the Council meeting. Mr. Brooks voiced concerns and Councilwoman Cole believes he has credible comments on enforcement and field work. She requested a written product from the meeting.

#### 7. Proposed New Agenda Items

None.

#### 8. Public Participation

Bonnie Torcivia asked for clarification on the overlap mentioned among Boro Commissions? She believes that is reflective of collaboration and that the Commissions and Committees should be talking and working together like the Environmental Roundtable discussions. C. McCabe noted the similarities of hazard tree documentation and the tree inventory project. He also thought multiple Commissions may be going after the same grants. Councilwoman Cole said all grants require resolution by the Governing Body so would identify any overlap ahead of time.

Ms. Torcivia believes there are healthy trees on the border of Sportsman Field and the drip line should be protected. Councilwoman Cole said with the current ordinance, there is no actionable mechanism in place to protect.

Ms. Torcivia asked for a copy of the Native Tree list.

Robbyn O'Neill wants a very strong Tree Ordinance in Fair Haven. D. Paolo urged her to attend Council meetings, as that is where the Ordinance will be further discussed.

#### 9. Adjournment @ 8:45pm