

Long Hill Township Shade Tree Commission

Meeting Minutes

September 23, 2019

Attendees: Melanie Palmer-Berdorf (7:30), Susan Jeans, Gordon Redgate (8:00), Paul Tamburri, and Mary DeLello (recorder).

Absent: Phyllis Fast, Peter O'Neill, and Guy Piserchia.

Meeting called to order at 7:05 by Susan. Melanie made a motion to accept the June 17, 2019 meeting minutes, Phyllis seconded, all in favor.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

1. Treasurer's Report: none given.

OLD BUSINESS

1. New Shade Tree Ordinance –

- a. John Linson and Susan met with new homeowner at 157 Greenwood who wants to take down all the trees on his property.
- b. Nancy Malool suggested that ordinance needs to be stronger. John Linson will work with Jack Pidgeon and Nancy Malool to create a stronger ordinance. Nancy doesn't think vote would happen until January. Township committee would like copies of the information from Gordon on surrounding town shade tree ordinance. Susan will give Delia materials to be copied and distributed.
- c. Budgets are due late fall and voted on the beginning of the year. Susan will contact Peter to ask him to work on the budget. Susan will contact committee to suggest \$500 - \$600 for John Linson to work with committee on new ordinance. Paul will contact Jack Pidgeon to get template for contractors. Paul will send Mary text to present to Nancy regarding John Linson's services.

2. Spring Challenge Grant – All of the dogwoods from 2018 Challenge Grant have died but the dogwoods from 2019 Challenge Grant are healthy. Susan recommends the Shadblow tree and Paul suggests the Kousa dogwood for next Spring Challenge Grant.

3. Bare Root Program – STC needs to have a license we currently do not have to conduct a Bare Root Program.

4. Natural Resource Inventory – John Linson to complete.

5. 165 Gates – tree has been removed.

6. Meeting with Nancy Malool - Susan met with Nancy last Tuesday regarding budget, ordinance and hiring John Linson one day a month at \$90/hour. John Linson will be on call on Mondays, Fridays and the occasional weekend at a rate of \$90/hour.

7. Volcanoes Killing Trees - Mary will put "volcanoes killing trees" article on Township website.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Climate Change Now in Newark Star Ledger –** not environmentally sound to take down trees to install solar panels. Mary will send Susan the link on NJ.com who may cover topic.
2. **Meeting with JCP&L –** JCP&L would like a list of suitable trees for under or near power lines.
3. **STC Meeting Dates in 2020 –** Susan moved to accept the 2020 proposed meeting dates (see attached), Phyllis seconded, all in favor.

Paul moved to adjourn the meeting, Susan seconded, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

►Next meeting: **Monday, October 28, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Long Hill Township Library.**

Submitted by Mary DeLello, Recorder