

Freehold Township Shade Tree Commission
May 3, 2017 Meeting
Mayors Conference Room 110

Minutes

1. **Meeting Called to Order** : Thom Ritchie called the meeting to order at 7:50
2. **Present**: Thom Ritchie, Jeanne Patterson, Nancy Mac Neill, Greg Hanley, Lester Preston
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**: Thom Ritchie led the Pledge of Allegiance
4. **Announcement of Open Public Meeting Act**: In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law (c231, PL 1975), this meeting was announced by posting a notice on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building reserved for that purpose, by mailing such notice to the offices of the official newspapers and the Township and by filing such notice with the Township Clerk.
5. **Meeting Minutes**: After a review of the minutes and on motion by Nancy Mac Neill and second by Jeanne Patterson, the minutes of April 5, 2017 were approved as presented.
6. **Unfinished Business**:
 - a. I Tree Inventory – 2 applications were received from Rutgers students to undertake tree inventory. There was a mix up with the applications and one candidate has taken another job. It appears that there are two more possible candidates who are interested and HR will be advised to look for those applications. A discussion ensued on the process once the hires are in place.
 - b. Arbor Day 2017 Thom Ritchie thanked Greg and Bill for the work in planting the trees at the school and DPMA. He also recognized FT DPW for their work and efforts in the making sure DPMA was in great condition for the tree planting ceremony. Lester Preston commented on the success of both Arbor Day events and thanked the STC for their efforts on both programs.
 - c. Discussion followed on the tree pruning issues at Marshall Errickson.

7. New Business:

- a. Discussed filing status of Financial Disclosure Report filing. Anyone who has yet to file should do so immediately.
- b. Discussed providing training to DPW on saw cuts, mulching and general tree maintenance. Lester to talk to Scott to see if DPW is receptive to this additional training
- c. Correspondence – The monthly Shade Tree Report was reviewed and discussed. STC discussed need to do a better job of communicating to residents specifically as it relates to the removal of Heritage and Street Trees. Enforcement options were also discussed.
- d. Discussed 2017 Overlay Program effecting several streets in the Wynnefield development.
- e. Discussed need to replace several dead trees on Stillwell Corner Rd. The trees survived the first year but last years drought had a significant impact on the trees.
- f. Discussed proposed senior affordable devolvement of Highway 33 (Phrill site) and possibility of sidewalks being installed.
- g. Discussed the new CTE / Tree Removal Applicants rules including the registration requirements, insurance requirements and registration timing. Tree care companies will be required to have a Licensed Tree Expert on staff no later than April 30, 2018.

8. Good and Welfare: None

9. Public Comments: None

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Submitted by Lester Preston Jr.
Acting Secretary