

FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP SHADE TREE COMMISSION

April 4, 2018 Meeting - 7:30 PM

1st Floor- Room 110

Meeting Minutes

1. **Meeting Called to Order:** 7:30 pm Thom Ritchie
2. **Present-** Nancy Mac Neill, Thom Ritchie, Bill Brash, Greg Hanley, Tara McQuade, Jeanne Patterson
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Guests:** none
5. **Announcement of Open Public Meeting Act**

In accordance with the Open Public Meeting Law, (c231, P.L. 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 filing such notice with the Township Clerk.

6. **Meeting Minutes:** March 2018 were reviewed and discussed. Nancy made a motion to approve Jeanne seconded and they were approved unanimously.

7. **Unfinished Business:**

- a. Arbor Day 2018- Catena was not receptive to a tree planting. Thanks to Nancy for pursuing and attempting to make contact. Eishenhower was the backup plan, but the target we are trying for is third grade. Our next choices to pursue are West Freehold School or Laura Donovan School. Thom and Nancy will continue to pursue next week when schools are back in session.
- b. Arbor Day DPMA Concerns about consistency with plaque size was discussed and the suggested dedication was truncated. The changes will be discussed with Karen ASAP.
- c. CSIP grant- Bill Brash has made progress and requested vacancy locations for 60 trees. Grant application will be completed when the information is available. When addresses are available, Bill can look at aerial photos and determine appropriate trees. The deadline is April 23, 2018.
- d. Parks- inventory still could be useful. Ways to acquire the information were discussed. The discussion needs to continue when Lester is present.
- e. Bad tree pruning at FT Schools and bad mulching practices are still concerns that have not been satisfactorily addressed.

8. **New Business:**

- a. **Shade Tree Monthly Report-** reviewed and discussed
- b. **Appeal Process of Historic/Heritage Tree flow chart-** the STC was really impressed with the work to simplify the appeal process for homeowners. Bill made a motion to approve the form and add to the website. Greg seconded the motion.
- c. **Correspondences-none**

9. **Good and Welfare-**

- a. **Monmouth County Shade Tree Spring Forum-** Nancy and Thom both attended and enjoyed lecture by Bruce Crawford. Dr. Hendrickson was also a great speaker.
- b. **EAB-** Bill put together a forum of stakeholders to discuss efforts to enact an action plan to combat EAB. Ways to work within budgetary constraints were discussed and collaborative efforts with JCP&L, municipalities/police (traffic control). The forum will share all information with the participants and an Ash Management action plan should be developed.

10. **Meeting Adjourned** 8:47pm

Minutes recorded and submitted by Tara McQuade