

FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP SHADE TREE COMMISSION (STC)
November 7, 2018 – 7:00pm
Room 110

Meeting Called to Order: 7:32 by Chairman Thom Ritchie.

Attendance: Thom Ritchie, Bill Brash, Greg Hanley, Jeanne Patterson, Stacy Ehring

Pledge of Allegiance

Guests: None attended

Announcement of Open Public Meetings Act: In accordance with the Open Public Meetings 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.

Meeting Minutes: October Minutes were reviewed by the board. Minutes were approved in a motion made by Greg Hanley seconded by Jeanne Patterson, carried unanimously.

The STC members welcomed Stacy Ehring to the Commission as the newest member.

Bill asked Lester if he would speak to the Recreation Department to determine if they would be interested in the STC members conducting a walk through to identify any Ash trees that were hazardous in the traveled and occupied portions of the Township Parks. Lester said he would notify the Parks Dept. and report back at a future meeting.

Discussion centered on establishing a Township “cost share” program to assist residents seeking to plant a tree along their street but would only apply to those trees that would be planted along the street but inside the sidewalk on private property. Stacy and Jeanne suggested a brochure once the rules were established. Rule establishment would be included in the agenda for the December Meeting.

There is a need for tree replacements for trees that are dead and accompanied by plagues within the three circles. An inventory will be completed for the trees to be replanted in the Spring of 2019.

The goals of the Community Forestry Management Plan were reviewed by the commission members.

Discussion regarding an updating of the Township’s preferred tree planting list began. The list has been updated and no changes are needed however the trees listed are not in alphabetical order and appear as two separate lists Bill agreed to complete this task as he did the recent update.

The STC expressed concerns about the need for followup to agenda items and communication with the DPW concerning tree issues. The thought was to have DPW tree staff attend a meeting at least quarterly as has been done successfully in the past with Joe Aufiero and Tim White. Lester would pursue this request on behalf of the STC.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Ritchie at 8:45pm.