



## Minutes for the BB Shade Tree Commission – April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call: In attendance was:
  - George Heflich
  - Shana Greenblatt
  - Summer Deaver
  - Larry Bagwell
  - Ravi Maruvada
  - Kim Baker
  - John Weber-Liaison
3. Ratification of Minutes
  - 3-17-21 Shana made a motion to accept. Summer seconded the motion. All members were in favor.
4. Grants
  - The William J. Porter Community Award- In Progress
    - Ravi will email George
5. DPW update
  - Park evaluation with Mr. Brash: All ash trees are infested. DPW will handle. STC will advise with the species of tree to plant.
  - Pruning class-CEUs: DPW took a pruning class with Mr. Brash, which fulfilled CEU's for the year. This will be billed to DPW.
6. Applications
  - Existing
    - 21-010 509 ½ Newark: Mr. Brash said the tree is healthy. The sidewalk can be replaced. The councilmen were asked for advice. The homeowner said the sidewalk was fixed 5 years ago. Mr. Brash stated that the sidewalk is an extra foot wide. He suggested repairing the sidewalk without the extra foot added, to give the roots more room. Councilman

Weber said he would ask the town to guarantee to fix the sidewalk if her 2nd repair is ineffective. The commission is denying her permission to take the tree down and will include specific money saving recommendations to repair the sidewalk. George will notify the applicant of the tree expert's advice and the commission's decision.

- Follow-up Protocol- In Progress

## 7. Phase II-

- Outreach to Borough
  - Planning/Zoning Boards- In Progress
  - The borough office today said they would not pay for outstanding invoices. We are limited to budget in the STC trust, which is roughly \$3000 dedicated to planting trees. We have spent this money already in the first quarter on invoices of our tree expert and a few membership applications. Our budget has not been approved for the year by the council. They are meeting next week to discuss.
  - Thomas J Coan suggested we take an aggressive approach with the council on this matter.
  - John Weber will follow up on this matter.

## 8. Phase III-Community Outreach

- Green Fair- April 24<sup>th</sup>- Checklist/Agenda: Volunteers 11-4  
Ravi, John Weber
  - + Ravi will stop by the park to see if internet is available for the tree pruning seminar
  - + Kim suggested that we record the tree pruning seminar and make it available on the STC website.
  - + Ravi and Shana will change email over to the town email, so her personal space isn't taken up in google drive.
- Arbor Day- April 30<sup>th</sup>-Checklist/Agenda 5:30pm @ 2nd Ave Park
  - + Commission members asked to share on social media the agenda for Arbor Day.
  - + DPW offered to pick up the tree. It will save a few hundred

dollars.

+ Shana will call the tree company to see if the delivery fee can be waived.

- Initiatives

- Shed: Kim was gifted brand new tools. Biagio gave us an old ticket booth to store the tools. The key is under the rock.
- Honor Me Program: STC wants to rush out for Green Fair. No changes to the program from the commission. \$250 per tree. \$60 optional plaque. Ravi will put into a fillable PDF
- Wishing Tree: People who can't afford to put a tree in planting strip, can request a tree be planted in the planting strip in front of their home. Commission approved the form.

Online Data Form- In progress

- Volunteer Request Form- In Progress: Ravi will work with Shana to create a form for volunteers on google forms to organize data. Kim suggested we use the version Ravi. George will send edits to Ravi by the end of the weekend.

+ John Weber suggested that we have a signup sheet where people add emails for Green Fair and Arbor Day.

+ Ravi will turn tree application into fillable PDF ALL APPLICATIONS

## 9. Commission Comments

10. Liaison Comments: John Weber shared that there is a 1 8-in bare root Salem Oak tree for us. Recommended to grow for several years in a pot before putting in the ground. John will get the seedling. Larry volunteered to take care of the tree.

TJ suggested it live in our new community center as an exhibition in the building.

11. Public Comments: George will send the Honor Me application to Thomas Coan tonight, who will pass the application around to several others.

12. Close: Shana made a motion to close. Larry seconded the motion. All were in favor. George noted that the meeting was 1 hour and 5 minutes.

Submitted by Summer Deaver