



Minutes for the BB Shade Tree Commission – June 2nd, 2021

1. Call to Order at 7:05pm
2. Roll Call: George, Shana, Kim, Ravi, Larry; Liaison- John Weber
Nick Kosarych – potentially interested in joining commission but has work on Wed. nights.
3. Ratification of Minutes
 - 5-19-21 Shana motion to accept; Kim second.
Action items will be listed on new agenda.
4. Proposed Ordinance Changes - per John, no updates from Mr. Cannon
5. Phase III-Community Outreach
 - Initiatives
 - Main Street Tree Wells
George discussed again with DPW. Pavers have to come up, roots have to come up, must wait until there's a long-term game plan.

Big question, per John: pavers. Pull them up and reposition them. The pavers are only 20 yrs. old and have a longer life span. Not so easy to just replant trees.

Biagio also mentioned that there's no watering truck. Per John, we've had a watering truck in the past.
 - Honor Me
 - Create check list for complete program
 - Wishing Tree
4 applications for each of the two programs. Shows that there's interest. Kim has been loading up forms on social media. Trees will be planted in place of a Wishing Tree recipient who will take care of the plan. 2 of 4 Honor Me applications requested a dedication plaque. Price on all 4 applications were based on the first quote of \$250. Now that we've launched the program officially, the cost is \$350.

Larry to send Shana forms for Honor Me & Wishing Tree to upload to Google docs.
 - Online Data Form/ Fillable PDF Forms
Ravi has made fillable forms for Honor Me and Wishing Tree. Ravi will create a fillable PDF form for the Tree Application, to follow.

Volunteer Form: thanks to Kim and Ravi for creating the fillable/linkable Volunteer Form. Has been posted on boro webpage but could not be done

with link to Google form. Awaiting new boro website when we will get to fully flesh out our STC page.

- “Money Tree”

Would like to get this program started and get residents interested in planting trees in their planting strip, requires with very little work from the STC. Town would provide a rebate (of \$75) for residents; this would be a big positive for town and STC, a win-win. If 25 people took us up on this, would be less than \$2,000, and a good use of budget \$. John- leverages our dollars and gets people inclined to plant to do so. Residents would need to follow the same procedure for planting, and after planted, would be eligible for the rebate. Per John- concern regarding “cutting checks” to residents. May have to put Shade Tree Funds into a special account so we can write checks from it, perhaps have a 2-signature check system. **John to speak with CFO to see how to set this up.**

- Tree of the Month

This may be a good incentive for people to take pride in their trees and encourage people **not** to cut down trees.

Kim will create monthly program to showcase a tree with the homeowner (story, picture, what they know about the tree, etc.). Post in Preserving Bradley Beach FB page, possibly share banners on boardwalk (like Historical Commission). Oldest tree, biggest tree, tallest tree, ‘baddest’ tree; get people to invest in process. Ask for nominations.

Suggested by Nick (public) to have BBES students help document process for Tree of the Month.

Ravi, if we want to bring a paradigm shift, move out of sense of competition/reward and instead provide education to bring about change. Everyone agreed it should be about recognition, celebration.

John to work with Kim/Ravi in developing this program.

- Second Ave. Park- Oceanside- Maritime Forest

Kim and Captain Al (Env. Commission) discussed developing this area (Maritime strand, native shrubs, wildflowers, etc.) DPW would be in favor of having this space developed rather than current grass to cut. Kim is meeting w/Captn. Al – maybe create a joint venture between Environmental Committee, STC and Littoral Society. STC could contribute some trees. Perhaps there’s an opportunity to get a grant to fund this through Captn. Al’s connections. **Kim will provide updates on Second Ave. Park.**

6. Applications

- New

- 21-021 617 Brinley

Application was not scanned by Katie as per protocol.

Per Brash: The tree is an ash, opposite branching, compound leaves. The dead upper crown and bushy growth below presents as classic EAB infestation which traditionally starts at the top and moves downward. Eventually the larvae impact of EAB will also kill the lower leaves that are still green.

The book says that more than 30% dieback and the tree cannot be saved even if that was your objective.

In this case the book is the way to proceed, the tree should be removed. Replacement should be an option if the resident agrees.

Replace with a tree from Group C or D due to the width of the planting strip.

Decision- may remove the tree without replacement. Will suggest by removal may be done by county. Include a recommendation to consider planting another tree.

- Existing

- 21-018 505 5th Ave.

Remove 1 in planting strip; 2 on private property.

Decision-Ask that they wait until after the summer for the Scarlet Oak. Otherwise, full replacement (2 replacement trees/\$1,000); The Holly tree is healthy, if removed, would require 1 replacement tree/\$500.

The homeowner may remove the tree in the planting strip with no replacement as it is dead.

- 21-019 300 Fourth Ave.

Remove 2 in planting strip; 1 on private property.

Decision- Remove the planting strip tree that's 50% dead and strongly encourage replacement. Prune other planting strip (Maple)/no permission to remove. Japanese Black Pine – allow removal with one replacement tree.

Ravi asked if Mayor/Council could make a statement to the community about tree preservation. John recommends a letter to the editor about the virtues of trees. John will talk to Amy Hall about what future communication can be made about trees.

- Follow-up Protocol
- Fillable Application Form

7. Meetings

- June 16th- Change date to the following Wed. 6/23 at 7p.
Shana to send a revised meeting notice to borough for posting.

8. Grants

- CSIP
Shana is reviewing application with Bill Brash on 6/15 at 10am.

Liz Hernandez has come on as a grant writer and may be able to help. We will see if we need Liz's help (contact Liz/Dave Brown).

9. Commission Comments –

- Meeting Minutes. Discussed the need for a new Secretary or the commission taking turns doing the minutes.
Larry will take on minutes for next meeting – 6/23.

10. Liaison Comments

- Salem Oak- John picked up the Salem White Oak seedling, it is in a large pot at the DPW site. Keep it in pot for 2-3 years before planting.
STC should get a picture with it.
John will scan certificate.
John will send Kim info. about Salem Oak.

11. Public Comments

- TJ Coan – There is a deceased tree in the Second Ave. Park. He asks that it be removed. George states that there are two dead trees there; Biagio is aware of this. His nextdoor neighbor planted a London Plane tree in the planting strip and looks great.

12. Close – Shana Motion to close/Larry seconded. All in favor. 8:54 pm.

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Action Items from 6/2 meeting:

George

1. Will send all letters to applicants

Kim

1. Will put Volunteer/Wishing Tree/Honor Me on other social media
2. Will reach out to Captain Al about 2nd Avenue (beach) "Maritime" forest and donated trees

Larry

1. Will develop a tracking system for the Honor me Program
2. Flesh out inner aspects of Honor me program- Certificate, etc.
3. Send Shana tracking docs. for Honor Me & Wishing Tree to upload to Google docs.

Shana

Send revised STC meeting date to borough.

Ravi

1. Will make fillable main application
2. Work with John & Kim on "Tree of the Month" program

Respectfully submitted by Shana Greenblatt Janoff, 6/3/21