

Minutes of the BBSTC - December 7th, 2022

1. Call to Order 7:05 pm

2. Roll Call

- George Heflich - Present
- Anne Gubitosi - Present
- Larry Bagwell - Present
- Nick Kosarych - Present (Joined 7:15 pm)
- Laurie Bagley - Present
- Jane DeNoble - Present
- Tom Gavin - Absent

Congratulations were given by all commission members to Councilman Gubitosi and Jane DeNoble for their election victories.

3. Ratification of Minutes of 11-2-22:

- A. Gubitosi - Motion to accept. L. Bagwell - second. Motion carried.

4. Interested to join the commission- 2 Commission positions will be open for appointment for 2023.

- Caroline Davidson
- Noelle Weinberg
- Ray Castellano

5. Tree of Heaven

- Council Resolution recommendation – An application to remove Trees of Heaven should have the application fee waived and no replacement requirements for the new Tree.
G. Heflich to forward request to Mayor and Council.
- Removal Protocol - T. Gavin, who sent a text to G. Heflich, stated in that text that he spoke with 8 tree removal companies. Only 3 ‘fulfill the need to destroy the remains of a Tree of Heaven. Asked our BA for the name of the group they used for our Red Tag trees, she asked why I was looking. I told her we were looking, she asked if I hold off sharing any names or taking this further. I said sure.”

6. Applications

- New
 - 22-037 211 Fourth Ave. - Tree of Heaven infested with Lantern Flies. Tree has been taken down. Commission members all agree that there should NOT be a requirement for replacement of Trees of Heaven, including this application. L. Bagwell

motioned. N. Kosarych seconded. Motion carried.

- 55 Main St. - J. Weber had recommended via email that the trees be reviewed. They are on public property (Rec Center).

N. Kosarych reviewed - states there is a 10 foot tall fence showing trees are on DPW property.

Hollowed out tree - and others look dead and should be removed.

G. Heflich has separately notified DPW, K. Humphrey (BA) and L. Fox (Mayor).

7. Tree of the Month - December. J. DeNoble created it and posted on the Borough Website. DeNoble also sent to the newspapers today.

8. Shade Tree Trust Fund Update. The borough paid to have the 18 red-flagged trees to be removed. 17 were in planting strips and one property had 2 trees. The borough asked for donations. \$1,400 collected for the Trust fund by 5 of the 16.

Trust Fund – Current balance is \$11,062.12.

9. Honor Me Thank You Letter - Pedersens. Added to Google Docs. “Wonderful letter” from the Pedersens - very emotional and nice recognition for STC. Administrator declined to post it to the borough site.

10. Red/ Orange Flagged Trees Status - Borough removed all 18 red-flagged trees. Also removed Orange flagged trees in Second Ave. park. No knowledge of Sylvan Lake Ash tree status. Administration to plan to revisit during the budget process next year.

11. Calendar - Michele Whille asked about STC Meeting dates for the borough calendar.

G. Heflich proposes 1st Wednesday every month - except for January which would be 3rd Wednesday of January 2023. L. Bagwell suggests two meetings in months with plantings (April and September 2023).

G. Heflich will confirm with Michele Whille.

12. Annual Reports

- Commission - Due at year end. G. Heflich will write-up and share with Commission members for review.
- Arbor Day Foundation - N. Kosarych coordinating report.
- Community Forestry Management Plan- also needs a report. L. Bagwell is keeping track of hours devoted by Commission (estimated combined 1,300 hours devoted to planting trees -

counting members and volunteers at each event)

13. Ordinance Update - G. Heflich states that it appears that the last set of updates are not posted on the website. The website also has a marked up copy of the Ordinance, not a clean copy. G. Heflich will review and then confirm with BA and Borough Attorney.

Liaison Weber will work with new Council to add amendment for application penalties.

G. Heflich to send Ordinance revision suggestions to the commission.

14. Red-Flagged Notice of Violation Time-Line- Available on Google Docs.

15. Commission Comments:

- G. Heflich - If commission members see trees removed, take pictures with house address and tree company truck and then STC can send to Borough Code Dept. Code Enforcement can then follow-up.
- J. DeNoble - Watering bags have been removed by DPW.
- J. DeNoble - Suggests that Council include Tree of Heaven Trees with Red-Flagged trees to be removed.
- N. Kosarych - STC should send notices to Tree Service companies that they must comply with Bradley Beach laws. A. Gubitosi suggests to follow-up with J. Weber to determine status of list of companies that Weber tracks.
- G. Heflich created Google Doc – “BBSTC Time-Line of Red-flagged Notices of Violation” to show feedback from neighbors who were angry at the STC due to the Administration’s communications which improperly sent them from the STC.
- A. Gubitosi asks Councilman Gubitosi when will Liaisons be established for 2023. He responded in early 2023.
- A. Gubitosi - announced that she will step down as Secretary in 2023 but looks forward to remaining as an active volunteer.
- N. Kosarych attended Manasquan Shade Tree meeting of many municipalities (from Bayport to Deal). Shared what other STCs have accomplished. There is a Google Docs folder now set up to share the activities of many communities.
- G. Heflich thanks each member of the Commission individually for the great year accomplished by the STC in 2022.

16. Public Comments - Thomas Coan asked about Pedersen letter - did Borough not allow publishing? G. Heflich stated that he asked via email to the BA and the mayor. They did not post it.

Mr. Coan also stated that he was very pleased about the STC's interaction with other municipal Commissions.

17. Liaison Comments - Al Gubitosi commented on the great work accomplished by this commission this year. He suggested a year-end party to be hosted by the Gubitosi family.
18. Close 8:07 pm