

Minutes of the BBSTC - September 6, 2023

- Call to Order by L. Bagwell at 7:03 pm
- Roll Call:
 - Larry Bagwell - Present
 - Anne Gubitosi - Present
 - Nick Kosarych - Present
 - Tom Gavin - Absent
 - Caroline Davidson - Present
 - Noelle Weinberg - Present
 - Jane DeNoble Liaison - Present
 - John Weber Liaison - Present
- Minutes For Last Meetings:
 - Motion to approve July 5, 2023 A. Gubitosi. N. Kosarych second. All approve.
 - Motion to approve August 2, 2023 A. Gubitosi. N. Kosarych second. All approve
- Applications:
 - 23-032 – 306 5th Ave – remove 1 tree, 1 replacement (PS). N. Kosarych “It’s definitely dead”. A. Gubitosi motion to approve removal. N. Kosarych second. Unanimous approval by Commission.
 - 23-033 – 503 5th Ave – remove 2 tree, 2 replacements (PRIV). L. Bagwell - “Two spruce trees” which are ornamental. Want to replace with Eastern Arborvitaes which are more like shrubs, popular in landscaping. N. Kosarych concern that Big Red Oak might provide a lot of shade limiting growth of shrubs. A. Gubitosi motion to approve. C. Davidson second. Unanimous approval by Commission.
 - 23-034 – 210 Newark – remove 1 tree, 1 replacement (PRIV). A. Gubitosi - This is a huge tree of Heaven - very small property with no room to replace. C. Davidson agrees. L. Bagwell noted this is an invasive species and C. Davidson suggests including an information kit with instructions for removal. N. Weinberg notes they will do it in conjunction with neighbors and neighbors will plant a replacement tree. L. Bagwell will ask the neighbors (208 ½ Newark) to plant the replacement tree. A. Gubitosi motion to approve removal contingent upon replacement tree planting by 208 ½ Newark. N. Kosarych second. Unanimous approval by Commission.
 - 23-035 – 208 ½ Newark – remove 4 trees, 4 replacements (PRIV). L. Bagwell - four trees removed to build private home and will replace within one year. L. Bagwell with also include 5th tree replacement to satisfy the 210 Newark obligation. J. Weber notes that they are removing four Cedar Trees - and would ask to replace them with four “native” Cedar Trees. A. Gubitosi motion to approve removal of

four trees with ultimate replacement of 5 trees (including 210 Newark obligation). N. Kosarych second. Unanimous approval by Commission.

- 23-036 – 306 Park Place Ave – remove 1 tree, 1 replacement (PRIV). L. Bagwell - this is mature tree. Appears to have a bark disease and it is dying. Property owner will replace. Also asked owner to make specific recommendations as to how we can improve STC Ordinance language. C. Davidson raised concern if this Cherry Tree has some form of “blight” that could contaminate other Cherry trees in town. J. Weber suggests sending an email to Tree Expert Bill Brash. L. Bagwell feels Mr. Brash would help but is concerned that the Borough is a few months late in paying his invoices. Weber will follow up with Mr. Brash. A. Gubitosi motion to approve removal of tree with replacement. N. Kosarych second. Unanimous approval by Commission.
- 23-037 – 304 Madison Ave – remove 1 tree, 1 replacement (PRIV). L. Bagwell - Tree is visible in front of property. The top of the tree is dead and reaching the power lines. Bagwell suggested strong pruning but other concerns like cracking of sidewalks. A. Gubitosi motion to approve removal of tree. N. Kosarych second. Unanimous approval by Commission.
- 23-038 – 401 Third Ave. – Planting strip removal of 1 tree, 1 replacement. L. Bagwell suggests that the Ash Tree is dead and wants to replace with Londonplane. L. Bagwell suggested pruning of Red Maple. C. Davidson suggests making a “step by step” guide / suggestions on how to evaluate trees for removal or pruning. J. Weber volunteered to assist C. Davidson. A. Gubitosi motion to approve removal of tree. N. Kosarych second. Unanimous approval by Commission.

- Wishing Tree Applications to Date – 15 (includes 3 left over from April)

- Honor Me Applications to Date -- 4 (at least one came from Tax Bill mailing). Will move Honor Me Tree from Elementary School to Second Ave Park. Mr. Coan (resident) is working on securing another Honor Me tree for the fall planting.

- Ordinance Changes:
 - Suggestion to change language about grass in planting strips. L. Bagwell noted that residents are asking about grass vs other types of materials in the planting strips. Example provided - be explicit about allowing mulch around trees.
 - N. Kosarych asks about moving to two meetings per month? Later on this agenda.

- Community Outreach/Media
 - Tree of the Month:
 - August Posted. More positive FB feedback! L. Bagwell said that it is great that people are noticing and thanked Councilwoman DeNoble for her efforts.

- September Tree of Month? J. Weber has suggestions and will discuss with Ms. DeNoble.
- Media – Coast Star and Coastar. J. DeNoble is keeping local papers aware of activity -- e.g. Tree of Month announcements. N. Kosarych asked why publications do not list STC activities.
- Tax Mailing insert with BBSTC flyer! L. Bagwell said THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP to STC volunteers who stuffed envelopes! 1st Honor Me application received!
- Oldest Tree in Bradley Beach – designing plaque. N. Kosarych said that J. Weber drafted concise language for plaques. The STC needs to vote on smaller or larger plaques. N. Kosarych will pull together a mock-up of plaque design - may need 25 to 30.
- Borough ID's – how to identify STC Members for borough residents? N. Kosarych will check with DPW supervisor (Biagio Cofone) to see if there might be a similar approach. N. Kosarych asked Murray's – they can make vests for \$14.50 per vest; 10 minimum. Weber willing to help facilitate completing the requisition process.
- Calendar and Tasks: L. Bagwell – Next Meeting suggested for October 20th. Discuss adding third Wednesday back to calendar – shortened agenda (applications review only)
 - Fall Planting Event – October 14, 2023
 - Schedule a nursery visit to line up trees?
 - Coordination with DPW for stakes and dig lists, dig holes, etc. Set rain date. N. Kosarych says STC needs names to submit to state for back up to support grant applications.
 - L. Bagwell will complete the master list of Honor Me and Wishing Tree locations by Friday, Sept 8.
- Budget Updates:
 - Deposits missing from 2022 were found! Mispostings in early 2022 (Feb-March). Town is in process of reversing entries to replace funds.
 - L. Bagwell disappointed that Borough is not paying Brash on time and reimbursements for training were also very delayed. Only showing 4 CEU credits for this year - Borough still doesn't have Rutgers' CEUs posted - which are needed for accreditation. L. Bagwell will tell DPW Supervisor that a DPW member must get certified with CEUs.
 - Agency reviewed submission, requested Financial Report.
 - Audit for 2022 turned up a few items to be researched
- Sylvan Lake Project – TD Bank application was submitted and resubmitted with modifications. We were not awarded the grant.
- Commission Comments:

- N. Kosarych - 306 and 308 Fifth Ave have Honor Me trees that are dying. L. Bagwell will check with B. Cofone (DPW) to see if watering bags can be added.
- A. Gubitosi:
 - Mr. Brash's bills - Can Liaisons (Weber and DeNoble) follow-up with the full Governing Body - rather than place the burden on L. Bagwell? L. Bagwell sent emails and copied Mayor Fox. BA took a long time to respond - but finally got payment issued.
 - Could the STC Ordinance extend the time for responding to residents from 20 days to 31 days? Preference would be to meet one time per month. Potential risk is that you lose volunteers. J. Weber suggested old STC failed because they would miss meetings if no quorum. Mr. Coan (resident) suggested that two meetings should be scheduled per month but can cancel one if not needed -- similar to Land Use Board.
 - L. Bagwell announced that there is an applicant for the STC alternate position. He will forward applicant info to Larry Fox
- Liaison Comments - J. Weber - agreed with J. DeNoble to keep campaigning **against mulch on...?????**
- Public Comments
 - Mr. Coan - thanked L. Bagwell for pursuing grant application even though it was unsuccessful. Also noted that the amount of the Tax increase might have reduced interest in Honor Me tree applications.
- Motion to adjourn by A. Gubitosi. N. Kosarych second. Unanimous approval. (8:38 pm)