

Minutes of Leonia Shade Tree Commission's Regular meeting held August 11, 2021

Present: Christine Healy, Imanta Bergmanis, Vivian DeMarco and Soo Joung Woo

Absent Committee members Julie Ulbrich, Kathi Verbeek, Laura Lindsay Sewell and Mark Spiegel and Counsel Liaison Bill Ziegler

The meeting is in compliance with the Open Meeting Act as the date, time, and place of all regular meetings were filed with the Borough Clerk and have been properly publicized.

Approval of Minutes of July 14, 2021 Meeting: Unanimously approved

Public Portion: None

Council Liaison Report: None

Chairperson Report:

- There was discussion on the meeting with residents required as part of the tree removal permit process that is presently being waived due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Three options were discussed: (i) circulate informational pamphlet; (ii) STC member or designee meet with resident and (iii) continue waiver of in-person meeting. Due to the pandemic, it was determined to continue to waive the in-person meeting. Discussed preparation of an informational pamphlet for residents.
- 322 Magnolia: Tree removed because of sidewalk
- 496 Park Avenue: Christine evaluated, and concurred tree should be removed due to uplifting sidewalk.

Commissioners Reports: None

Highwood Hills Report: Imanta updated the members on status of the project to remove Green Briar and other invasive plants.

Walk About (District 4 for 2021)

- Christine reported on a tree on Fort Lee Road in front of Methodist Church that needs to be removed. The removal of the trees on Fort Lee Road is the county's responsibility. Christine reached out to the DPW and requested that the DPW notify the county.

Spring Planting 2021:

- Imanta sent out invitations to quotes. STC members requested to identify planting sites. 30-35 planting sites needed.

Media and Marketing: Soo, Julie and Kathi are working on post-card for private property planting.

Private Property Planting Program: Julie is drafting a form letter informing residents about the program.

Memorial Planting: Imanta reported a cherry tree along the pathway from Leonia Avenue into Wood Park that was planted as part of the Spring planting has been designated as memorial tree for Rowena Wagenheim.

Leonia Day/Arbor Day 2021: It has been determined not to organize a Leonia Day in fall 2021. The next Leonia Day will be held in May 2022.

Signature Tree Black Oak: There was discussion on the Black Oak at 205 Oratam Terrace, Leonia. This resident was informed by the State of NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection that it is the largest Black Oak reported in Bergen County and 3rd largest reported in the state.

Grand Ave.: Christine will inquire with DPW about update on removal of dead trees on Grand Avenue.

CEUs: Need a total of 8 for the year from a minimum of two members

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Imanta Bergmanis