

Minutes of Leonia Shade Tree Commission's Regular meeting held February 10, 2021

Present: Christine Healy, Bill Ziegler, Kathi Verbeek, Mark Spiegel, Vivian DeMarco, Charles Moren, Soo Joung Woo, John Villareal

Absent: Imanta Bergmanis, Julie Ulbrich, Kate Mirbaba, Diane Petrella

Approval of minutes January 2020 - approved

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.

Public Portion: none

Council Liaison Report:

- 1935 Tree Survey circulated. 3000 trees. 365 along Grand Ave.
- Private Planting proposal is on the M/C meeting for February 17th.
- Christine and Imanta to present; 10 minute overview followed by Q&A
- Pedestrian Safety for Irving Street & Ft Lee Rd. 21,000 cars pass through and increased signage & more cross walk visibility needed. Resolution to go to the County Executive.
- Leonia Point of Distribution for the Vaccine.
- Municipal building. Spring demo. Bond ordinance introduction at March meeting.

Chairperson Report:

- Walkabout District 4 2021: Kate M. has been given the maps for District 4. Assignments to be forthcoming
- Spring Planting 2021: Bids vs. Quotes. Requesting 3 quotes to plant approximately 30 trees.
- Each STC member should identify 2 -3 locations/residents in town that would like a shade tree planted. Provide to Christine and Imanta by March 15. shadetree@gmail.com
- Tree City USA application: due Feb. John V. has placed two new Tree City USA signs in town.
- Leonia Day/Arbor Day 2021 – Not sure yet with pandemic that we will have the outdoor event. A free tree give away is planned.

Marketing & Media Update:

- Publish STC Ordinance and its importance in multiple newspapers. Kathi has spoken to the Gold Coast and Soo has reached out to multiple Korean newspapers. Looking at publishing the article in March.
- New Ordinance/Community Outreach: Create postcard that can be mailed to all residents in late March with the one year anniversary coming up on April 1st, 2021.
- Enforcement of Ordinance. Kathi has reached out to Police Chief Tagamny. He would like to hold a meeting with STC members, members of Building and Zoning Department to agree upon process and enforcement so that all departments are on the same page. Bill will reach out to Andrea to determine who should represent the building and zoning departments.

- Kathi to reach out to Board of Ed to request STC message be printed in August Calendar
- Bill suggested that we reach out to the Tax Office to have a letter added to the Tax bill that is mailed each August/September to residents

Commissioner's Report

- Right away next to 308 Glenwood between (Glenwood & Harold). Two town trees reviewed by John V. and Christine H for consideration. One will have dead vines removed to see if the tree will survive. 2nd tree is dead covered in vines will be removed.
- Highwood Ave(Public property) tree removal of two trees(Norway Maple)
- Two trees were removed from the empty lot on Golf Course road. Requires follow-up

New/Old Business

- Christine asked John V. if there is an opportunity for a boy scout clean-up project for right away areas in town.

adjourned at 8:37pm