

Minutes of Leonia Shade Tree Commission's Regular meeting held September 8, 2021

Present: Christine Healy, Imanta Bergmanis, Julie Ulbrich, Mark Spiegel, Vivian DeMarco, Laura-Lindsay Sewell

Absent: Kathi Verbeek, Soo Joung Woo, Bill Ziegler

Approval of minutes Aug, 2021 - 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: 322 Magnolia tree removed and stump to be removed

Council Liaison Report -- Landmark Tree Designation

Reference is made to a letter from Joseph C. Bennett from the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to Diane Scarangella informing Ms. Scarangella that a Black Oak (*Quercus velutina*) located in her back yard at 205 Oratam Terrace is a signature tree with an approximate age of 250 to 300 years old. Mr. Bennett reports in the letter that the tree is the largest Black Oak reported in Bergen County and the 3rd largest reported in the State of New Jersey. Diane Scarangella, the homeowner, has requested the Commission to determine whether the Black Oak qualifies as Landmark Tree under Section 275-16. Under Section 275-16, a tree may qualify as a landmark tree if it meets one of the criteria listed therein including the tree being more than 100 years of age or the tree is of a mature height. After discussion, upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously adopted, it was

RESOLVED, that the Committee hereby approves the designation of the Black Oak located in the back yard at 205 Oratam Terrace a Landmark Tree under Section 275-16.

Christine Healy will reach out to the Mayor and Counsel seeking a resolution recognizing the Committee's designation of the Black Oak as a Landmark Tree.

Chairperson Report:

164 Highwood - Had a new sidewalk put down and installers cut sycamore's roots - John
211 Christie Hts - Tree company taking down limbs on town tree and tree company said they had permission.

496 Park Ave - Oak tree is disrupting curb and causing heaving in the sidewalk, and tree will be removed. The homeowner is interested in private planting program.

322 Magnolia - Pin oak removal sidewalk heaved and once stump removed, the homeowner will fix sidewalk

217 Harrison - roots disturbed - asking for second look by tree expert

Commissioner's Report

An Invitation to quote for the fall planting was delivered to five companies. Downes and Let It Grow have submitted bids.

In need of CEU's (8 credits) by Dec 31st.

Lantern fly spotted at ACS. Imanta composed a letter and Laura-Lindsay will put on list serve. Will use same information for town website.

Adjourned at 8:55



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

DIVISION OF PARKS & FORESTRY

NEW JERSEY FOREST SERVICE

MAIL CODE 501-04

P.O. BOX 420

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0420

TEL: # 609-292-2520 FAX: # 609-984-0378

PHILIP D. MURPHY

Governor

Shawn M. LaTourette

Commissioner

SHEILA Y. OLIVER

Lt. Governor

Big Tree Nomination Inspection

Diane Scarangella

205 Oratam Terrace

Leonia, NJ 07605

Date of Examination: August 4, 2021

Location of Tree: 205 Oratam Terrace Leonia, NJ 07605 – Back yard

Statistics: *Quercus velutina* (Black Oak)

Circumference at 2 feet from ground: 15'-4" or 184"

Height: 103'

Average Crown Spread: 116'

Points using the American Forests National System: 316

Condition: Good

Status: Signature Tree

Age: Approximately 250 to 300 years old

This tree is the largest Black Oak reported in Bergen County and the 3rd largest reported in the state.

This tree is of enough size to be included in the state register of big trees. The register has been kept since the 1930's and helps document specific historic and noteworthy trees in the state as well as provides information regarding the change of the resource over almost a half century of time. I have entered the tree statistics, photographs, and the trees' location into our records. Please keep us informed of any change to the status of the tree.

This tree has been classified as a Signature. Trees of this caliber are rare and should be maintained and protected. Trees of this size are mega resources and perform 600 times the environmental benefits of typical trees. You or the new owner should consider installing a lightning protection system. If you think your tree is a candidate to be classified as a Heritage, please submit your historic story and it will be reviewed on a later date.

Information and technical assistance for the township to help protect and maintain the health of this tree and their entire tree resource is available from the NJ Forest Service. Please feel free to contact the Community Forestry Program at (609) 292-2532 for help or information.



Joseph C. Bennett
Assistant Regional Forester