

Minutes of Leonia Shade Tree Commission's Regular meeting held Wed. March 9, 2022

Present: Christine Healy, Imanta Bergmanis, Julie Ulbrich, Bill Ziegler, Vivian DeMarco, Mark Spiegel, Kathy Verbeek, John Villareal, Charles Moren,

Absent: Soo Joung Woo, Laura Lindsay Sewel

1. The meeting is in compliance with the Open Meeting Act as of the date, time, and place of all regular meetings were filed with the Borough Clerk and had been properly publicized.
2. Feb 2022 minutes approved
3. Public Portion:
 1. NONE
4. Council Report:
 1. Municipal Complex: 16 Bidders for construction with winning bidder at 7 million dollars. GPC Construction won bid. End of April groundbreaking with a 14 month timeline for construction.
 2. Planning Board West side of Maple St and Grand Ave - possible redevelopment of a 5 story residential dwelling.
5. Chairperson Report:
 1. Christine found the resolution of the bald cypress on Ft. Lee Rd as a landmark tree. Working on protecting tree at 205 Oratam. Record of this is necessary to add trees to master plan.
6. Commissioners Report:
 1. No tree evaluations noted
 2. Corner of Allaire and Broad - Norway maple tree taken down due to lean and fungus on street side of base of trunk. High traffic area, DPW decided to remove tree. Discussion between John and Commissioners is to notify STC if dead/diseased/dying AND in the case of immediate hazard.
 3. Community Garden - Tree in question of removal vs. pruning. Question of interfering with fence.
 4. Tree Removal for water access - hydrant connection going thru sound barrier of Rt. 95. John, Christine, and Dave Hanalt will meet to discuss how many trees to remove.
 5. Capital Budget - submitted to M&C
 6. Private Property Program- Spring 2022 (private and town) planting. 30 trees to be planted. Mailer sent out and Facebook PDF to blast out by next week. Imanta will be updating our webpage for more information on the program.
 7. Kathi requested space in community calendar to announce private property program and ordinance. Also suggested the history of heritage trees in Leonia. Kathi will be reaching out to David Braun to possibly get an article out.
 8. Leonia Day will be May 15. Imanta will involve Rec Center so they can help in the future. Alimentary will be attending.
 9. Annual Application for Tree City USA - waiting to hear back from
 10. Sapling Distribution - approved. Picking them up April 21 - giveaway April 22 (Friday). Any whips not used will be used in Highwood Hills. Distribution of saplings will also be distributed by the School Green Team.

Adjourned 9:00

Minutes by Julie Ulbrich