Lambertville Shade Tree Commission
Minutes of the Open Meeting
April 26, 2016

Meeting was called to order at 7:35. Present were Emily Goldman, Art Legere, Deborah Galen and Irene Rudolph.

Old Business:

A. Minutes of the March meeting were approved without corrections.

B. We continued the discussion about the trees cut down on S. Franklin which was done without approval. No action has yet been taken by the City. This issue is under the jurisdiction of the City Zoning Office since cutting the trees was a violation of the Steep Slope Ordinance. Emily will continue to follow up and push for restitution. We need to find out who is the owner of the property.

C. We discussed and voted on the application from James Riggs to remove a Pin Oak at 34 Buttonwood. Rich Wheeler at Tamke had determined that the tree is dying and needs to be taken down. The Commission voted unanimously to give permission to remove the tree and replace it.

D. We have received no further word from the Fire Department regarding their request for street trees to be trimmed after we agreed to have one of our members plus Emily accompany someone from the Fire Department to assess the trees in question. We had requested that this be done during the day and not as night as they originally requested.

E. Emily advised that she had called some of the foresters on the approved list and was having little luck getting a response. She will contact other Hunterdon municipalities for names of certified foresters.

F. We debated whether to resume the Tree Inventory. Emily will contact Krista Heinrich -City Engineer- to ask for the plans for a couple of the streets that have been recently repaved. That would provide us a list and location of the trees on those streets.

New Business:

A. The day for the Shade Tree Commission meetings has been changed to the 2nd Thursday of each month. Emily will advise Cindy Ege to post the change on the City website.

B. We need to advise the owner of the dead tree at Coryell and Main that the tree must be removed. Cindy sent us an email that someone had come in to advise her of the dead tree. Deborah will send the owner a letter.

C. In response to the inquiry by Lynn Kline about the removal of a tree at 61 Church: the tree is very clearly in the owners yard and not a street tree, although it does appear to be on the property line between 2 private properties. The Shade Tree Commission has no jurisdiction. Lynn Kline has been advised.

D. There will be no Shade Tree Commission meeting in May.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Irene Rudolph