

**City of Lambertville
SHADE TREE COMMISSION**

Minutes of February 28, 2022 Meeting

Attending the meeting were members Brian Herzhauser, Helen Pettit, Art Legere and Tom Ogren. Members Susan Wydick and Rich Mowry were absent. Chair Brian Herzhauser convened the meeting at 7:36 pm. The meeting was held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act at City Hall.

Approval of Minutes:

Art made a motion, seconded by Tom, to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2022 meeting with a sentence added by Tom in response to Helen's concern about an error in the 42 Delaware Ave. application. All voted in favor.

New Business:

1. 203 N. Union St. - Tree Action Request: Homeowner Julie Gearhart requested approval to trim a cherry tree and a Pyracantha hedge between the sidewalk and the curb on the Elm Street side of her property. The tree trimming will remove dead limbs and shape the tree. The hedge will be trimmed along the curb and sidewalk. *Brian made a motion, seconded by Helen, that the request be approved. All voted in favor.*

2. 34 Clinton St. - Tree Action Request: Property owners Stephanie and Joel Simmons requested approval to remove dead branches and trim branches near utility wires from two Redbud trees in the front yard. *Art made a motion, seconded by Tom, that the request be approved. All voted in favor.*

3. Earth Day Celebration: Mary Anne Borge, chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission and representing Lambertville Goes Wild, attended the meeting to invite the STC to join with those groups in celebrating Earth Day. The groups will host an Earth Day event at Cavallo Park on Saturday, April 16th from 10 am to 2 pm. Mary Anne suggested that the STC could assist with the distribution of 500 tree seedlings to be provided by the State Forestry Service and set up a table with tree related information. One item which the STC agreed to provide was a flyer on where residents could plant trees on their property, etc.

4. Sustainable New Jersey Grant Update: Mary Anne indicated that the City submitted a grant application for \$20,000 to plant 20 trees in N. Union St./Cherry St. Park. She expected to learn in April whether the grant was approved. If approved, she will come back to the STC to discuss the project in more detail.

Old Business: None

Public/Commission Member Comments:

1. Brian reported that a letter was sent to the owner of 44 N. Main Street to request removal of a Sycamore tree which was leaning too far into the street creating a hazard. Some trucks had hit the leaning tree trunk. Efforts to have NJ DOT remove the hazardous tree from this State road were unsuccessful.
2. Brian also reported that Mayor Nowick asked that the STC provide him with a list of street tree stumps in the downtown area. Members can submit addresses to Brian.
3. Tom asked if the STC agreed with the mayor's suggestion to plant a seedling from the historic Salem Oak at the Closson property. The site was agreed to with the understanding that it be planted in the lawn area of the historic Holcombe house. A deer enclosure will be needed and the mayor will assist with the planting.
4. Helen distributed copies of two items for STC members to review and comment on at the next meeting: 1) Proposed amendments to the STC ordinance; and 2) "Procedures" policies which describe the responsibilities of STC officers and members. Brian will send digital copies to STC members.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Tom Ogren,
Recording Secretary