

City of Lambertville
SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Minutes of January 27th, 2020 Meeting

Attending the meeting were members Brian Herzhauser, Art Legere, Helen Pettit, and Tom Ogren. Susan Wydick, Jessica Campo and Rich Mowry were absent. Chair Brian Herzhauser convened the meeting at 7:33 pm. The meeting was held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Approval of Minutes:

Helen made a motion, seconded by Art, to approve the minutes of the November 25th meeting. All voted in favor.

New Business:

a. 273 N. Union Street - Tree Action Request: Kevin Craven, homeowner, requested approval to remove an Ash tree in front of his house. *Tom moved, seconded by Art, that the request be approved. All voted in favor.*

b. 122 N. Union Street - Tree Action Request - Don Griffin, homeowner, requested approval to trim an Ash tree in his rear yard which had branches overhanging his neighbors house at 35 Delaware Street. Given that the tree was not located in the Delaware Ave. r.o.w. and did not have a canopy extending into the r.o.w., it was agreed that the STC did not have jurisdiction to take any action.

d. 24 Bridge Street -Tree Action Request: Property owner Joe Caprio requested permission to remove the large Pin oak tree in front of his building which was dying due to Bacterial Leaf Scorch. *Tom made a motion, seconded by Art, that the request be approved. Helen abstained. All others voted in favor.*

3. 44 N. Main Street - Tree Action Request: Property owner Joe Caprio requested permission to remove a Sycamore tree in front of his building near Coryell Street. The tree appeared to be diseased with the top portion of the tree dying. *Art made a motion, seconded by Tom, that the request be approved. All voted in favor.*

4. 18 N. Union Street - Tree Action Request: Property owner Joe Caprio requested permission to trim dead branches on a large Pin oak tree in front of his property and trim the lower branches of a Sycamore tree to the side of his building. *Tom made a motion, seconded by Art, that the request be approved. All voted in favor.*

5. 22 Delevan Street - Tree Action Request: Property owner Joe Caprio requested permission to trim a Zelkova tree along the side of his building on N. Union Street. *Art made a motion, seconded by Tom, that the request be approved. All voted in favor.*

Old Business:

- a. Church Street Tree Planting Project: Brian reported that 18 trees were planted by Rutgers Nursery in early December. Although all the trees were intended to be planted along Church Street, Brian reported that due to the objection of three property owners, he was advised by the City administrator to find other locations for six trees. Other locations included the library, City hall, the 5 and Dime, and Cherry Street park.
- b. Ash Removal at Library: Brian reported that the dead Ash tree along Ferry Street was removed by the City in December.
- c. Oak Tree at Kalmia Club: Brian reported that he would identify dead branches on this tree (and one oak in Sheridan park) so that the City could proceed with having those branches removed. He mentioned that an ash tree along Philips Barber Drive behind the fire house may have to be removed.
- d. Tree City USA Designation: Brian wanted to proceed with making an application for designation this year. There was a discussion about having an Arbor Day celebration (on the last Friday in April), a requirement for designation. Brian was to confirm that funds would be available to plant a tree on Arbor Day in Ely Park.

Member Comments: Tom mentioned that the Annual Accomplishment Report was due at the NJ State Forest Service by February 15th as required by the Urban and Community Forestry Program.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Tom Ogren
Secretary