

City of Lambertville
SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Minutes of July 27, 2020 Meeting

Attending the meeting via Zoom were members Brian Herzhauser, Helen Pettit, Rich Mowry, and Tom Ogren . Susan Wydick, Art Legere , and Jessica Campo were absent. Chair Brian Herzhauser convened the meeting at 7:40 pm. The meeting was held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Approval of Minutes:

Helen made a motion, seconded by Brian, to approve the minutes of the June 22nd meeting. All voted in favor.

New Business:

1. 50 S. Union Street - Tree Action Request: Homeowner Luis Sosa requested approval to trim a large Zelkova tree in front of his house. Since the homeowner's request was vague about proposed trimming, Rich Mowry, who was familiar with the tree, indicated that trimming would include pruning low branches over the street (up to 13 ft.) and branches extending toward the porch and a nearby dogwood tree. *Helen made a motion, seconded by Tom, that the trimming as described by Rich be approved. All voted in favor with Rich abstaining.*

2. 136 N. Union Street - Tree Action Request: Homeowner Mark Conlon requested approval to trim dead branches on a large Red oak tree in front of his house. The homeowner also intended to treat the tree for Bacterial Leaf Scorch. *Tom made a motion, seconded by Rich, that the request for tree trimming and treatment be approved. All voted in favor.*

3. 28 Elm Street - Tree Action Request: Property owner Elizabeth Conte requested approval to trim a large Zelkova tree with branches extending to her house and over the roof. *Helen made a motion, seconded by Tom, that the request be approved. All voted in favor.* The property owner is also to be advised to deal with girdling roots.

4. 122 N. Union Street - Tree Action Request: Homeowner Dwight Wood requested approval to trim Lacebark elm trees along the side of his house along Delaware Street. Branches from two of these trees have extended to the house and over the roof. Rich suggested that the branches be pruned 8 feet from the house. It was noted that the Red maple in front of the house on N. Union Street may also need trimming. *Brian made a motion, seconded by Rich, that the trimming of branches 8 feet from the house be approved. All voted in favor.*

Old Business:

Brian indicated that a proposal from ArborPro to provide software for a tree inventory was submitted to the City administration by Art. Brian suggested that this item be further discussed at the next meeting.

Commission Member Comments:

1. Helen's proposed revision of the Tree Action Request form was briefly discussed. Helen mentioned that the form would provide much more information including property ownership, tree identification, pruning descriptions and photos. Rich suggested that instead of having pruning descriptions on the form, the homeowner could attach a work description from the arborist or company doing the tree work. Helen also proposed that all street trees be numbered. Rich suggested that aluminum tree number tags could be attached to trees. Brian indicated that the revised form would be discussed at the next meeting.
2. Brian mentioned that Helen had reiterated at the most recent Council meeting the concern of the STC that Top Line Construction still needed to plant trees as part of the Clinton Street phase II project. Her comments were a follow-up to the STC memo to mayor and council on this subject.
3. Tom reported that there is a heavy infestation of Spotted lanternflies on Tree of heaven trees along the canal bank. Rich offered to contact the Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission to ask whether there were any plans to deal with the problem.
- 4, Brian mentioned that he would be meeting with Public Works director Lester Myers concerning street trees along Blair Tract.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Tom Ogren
Secretary