

# Lambertville Shade Tree Commission

## Minutes of Open Meeting

June 9, 2016

Meeting was called to order at 7:31. Present were Emily Goldman, Deborah Galen, Susan Wydick,

Art Legere, and Irene Rudolph.

Present from the public was Tom Forlenza who advised that while he was not a resident of Lambertville, he was there on behalf of several homeowners interested in clarifying their responsibilities for removal, maintenance and planting of street trees. He also said they were interested in getting more trees planted. In particular he questioned the lack of information regarding rights and responsibilities of the homeowners about the street trees. Emily advised that she would see if we can put more information on the Shade Tree website.

Old Business:

A. Some of the trees at Wells Fargo Bank parking lot are dying. Susan Wydick said she will follow up

with them - if the guarantee is still in effect and will need to act before it expires.

B. It was noted that at the east corner of Coryell and N. Main, the removed tree was replaced.

C. We still need to determine who owns the property at S. Franklin where tree cutting took place

so we can move forward with prosecuting or fining the property owner.

D. We still have no response from the Fire Department regarding surveying the trees that they wanted

pruned to accommodate the new fire truck. We will just wait to hear from them rather than take the initiative.

E. We have selected a forester to implement our Community Forestry Management Plan - Ronald Farr.

The grant was \$3000 and the quote was \$3300 so we are still negotiating. Either way he will start

implementing the plan and will meet with the Commission to establish goals, etc.

D. Regarding a shade tree inventory, Emily has the plans for the most recently completed street

projects which include the location of new trees and sometimes identifies species. Irene said

she would locate the tree inventory started in August 2011 which included Perry between Clinton

and North Union, part of North Union, and part of Delevan. This inventory was undertaken jointly by

Susan McGrath and Irene Rudolph.

E. We discussed and voted on an application for the removal of a tree at 80 Wilson St. to accommodate

the construction of 3 townhouses. There is not enough room to replace the tree on Wilson so trees

will be planted along Rt. 29. The Shade Tree Commission voted to approve the removal, with Emily

recusing herself due to her position as City Planner.

F. We agreed that we need to send a letter to the owner of the property at Jefferson and Main

advising that he must plant a tree by the fall or suffer a penalty. Approval to remove a healthy tree was given with the condition that a replacement be planted. Instead the

owner has

planted an assortment of shrubs and perennials which is not an acceptable substitute.

- G. It appears that the large old Sycamore in Ely Field is sprouting. Tamke advised that they will treat the tree gratis and take a wait and see approach.

New Business

- A. We reviewed the list of possible street trees prepared by Scott Consoli and agreed we needed

variety as a protection against losing one species to a disease or pest.

- B. The application by Kathleen Russo at 149 George St. to remove a dying tree was approved unanimously with the requirement to plant another tree.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Irene Rudolph