

City of Lambertville
SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Minutes of June 24, 2019 Meeting

Attending the meeting were members Brian Herzhauser, Art Legere, Helen Pettit, Susan Wydick, Jessica Campo, and Tom Ogren. Rich Mowry was absent. Chair Brian Herzhauser convened the meeting at 7:30 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 May 20th meeting with an addition to the 14 Lambert Lane section proposed by Helen. All voted in favor.

New Business:

a. 9 York Street - Tree Action Request: Homeowner Deanne McBeath requested approval to trim an ash tree with several dead limbs and limbs overhanging her house roof. Tom made a motion, seconded by Sue, that the request be approved. All voted in favor.

b. Tree City USA Application: There was a discussion about meeting eligibility requirements for Tree City designation including budgeting \$2 per capita for tree related activity and having an Arbor Day celebration next year to include a tree planting. (An Arbor Day proclamation was prepared for and approved by the City Council in April of this year.)

Old Business:

a. STC Ordinance Revision: The final version of the ordinance as approved by the STC was given to the mayor and City attorney to review. Brian indicated that the next step was for Council to hold a work session on the draft ordinance which will be held in July. As proposed by Helen, all agreed that the STC send a memo to the mayor and council formally transmitting the ordinance prior to the work session.

There was a discussion about the ordinance provision regarding removal of tree stumps. All agreed that removal be required down to 18" rather than two feet as had been proposed and that stumps be removed within one year of tree removal as proposed.

b. Recommended Tree List: Mary Ann Borge of Lambertville Goes Wild, who attended the meeting, asked for an update to her previously proposed changes to the list. Sue, who was to review those changes, agreed to meet with Mary Ann and report back to the STC.

c. STC Budget for 2019 - All agreed that the STC send a memo to the mayor to confirm that the City budget for 2019 allocated \$7,200 for the STC and confirm that the STC would be receiving a private donation for tree planting this year. (The final approved line item budget is not on the City website.)

There was also a discussion about how to spend funds budgeted for the STC. One project previously discussed was the re-planting of 14 trees on Church Street which had died. (The trees had been planted by the City as part of a sidewalk improvement project many years ago.) It was agreed to consider this project and other ways to spend budgeted funds at the July meeting. In the meantime, Sue offered to prepare a tree planting plan for Church Street which could be used by the City to obtain price quotes.

Public/Commission Member Comments - Mary Ann Borge, who is a member of the Recreation Commission, asked about the STC's response to the trenching for the new fence at Ely Field. Brian indicated that Rich Mowry had prepared a detailed report describing the damage caused to a row of trees within a few feet of the fence. He indicated that cost estimates for the replacement of damaged tree may be added. The report, he said, will soon be sent to the mayor and council and the Recreation Commission.

Jessica Campo asked about requiring more information on the Tree Action Request form such as tree specie and allowing the submission of attachments. Brian added that there should be links to the Request form and the Recommended Tree List on the STC webpage. All agreed.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Tom Ogren
Secretary