

**CITY OF LAMBERTVILLE
SHADE TREE COMMISSION**

MINUTES OF THE JULY 26, 2021 MEETING

Agenda Item 1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:35M by the Chair, Brian Herzhauser, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. A copy of the Agenda and the minutes were posted on the website and the bulletin board of the City of Lambertville.

Agenda Item 2. Roll Call:

Brian Herzhauser, Chair, called the roll as follows:

Present: Chair Brian Herzhauser, Helen Pettit, Susan Wydick, and Vice Chair Art Legere

Absent: Recording Secretary Tom Ogren, Rich Mowry and Jessica Campo

Chair Herzhauser recognized the absence of the Recording Secretary and requested that Corresponding Secretary, Helen Pettit, assume the responsibility for taking the Minutes.

Agenda Item 3. Approval of June 28, 2021 Meeting Minutes:

Prior to the July 26, 2021 Meeting, the Draft Minutes for the June 28, 2021, Meeting were emailed to Commission Members by Recording Secretary Tom Ogren. Chair Herzhauser requested a motion to approve the minutes.

Motion to Approve the Minutes by: Mr. Herzhauser

Seconded by: Ms. Pettit

Vote: Approved; Unanimous

Agenda Item 4. New Business

4.1. Tree Action Request - Olga Rose, 50 Coryell Street (Remove Dead Ash Tree)

The request is to remove dead Ash Tree. Commission members commented on their inspection of the tree, and concurred that the tree had long since succumbed to Emerald Ash Borer and now presents a hazard to persons and property.

Motion to Approve Removal of dead Ash Tree at 50 Coryell Street subject to the Commission's standard conditions related to stump removal, compliance with NJSA 45:15C-11 et seq, and "NJ Call Before You Dig."

Moved by: Mr. Herzhauser

Seconded by: Mr. Legere

Vote: Approved/Unanimous

4.2. Tree Action Request - Jeffrey Neumann, 53 Delaware Ave. (Prune Branches away from Houses, Shape, and Trim Dead Branches of London Plane Tree)

The request is to prune, shape and trim the London Plane Tree. Commission members commented on their inspection of the tree, and concurred that the tree was encroaching on the Applicant's house and 2 neighboring houses. It was the consensus of the Commission that the tree was vigorous and a valuable asset to the City, however the encroachment of the branches against the 3 houses was problematic, and the tree should be pruned away from the 3 houses and dead branches should be removed.

(Shade Tree Commission Minutes of 7/26/21 - Continued:)

Motion to Approve Pruning and Trimming of Branches away from houses and Removal of Dead Branches of London Plane Tree at 53 Delaware Avenue subject to the Commission's standard conditions related to compliance with NJSA 45:15C-11 et seq.

Moved by: Mr. Herzhauser

Seconded by: Mr. Legere

Vote: Approved/Unanimous

- 4.3. Tree Action Request - Mary Jean Palko, 8 Buttonwood Street (Prune & Shape away from houses, and Trim Dead Branches of Zelkova Tree)

The request is to prune, and trim the Zelkova Tree and remove dead branches. Commission members commented on their inspection of the tree, and concurred that the tree was encroaching on the Applicant's house and on the adjoining house at 6 Buttonwood Street. It was the consensus of the Commission that the tree was vigorous and a valuable asset to the City, however the encroachment of the branches against the 2 houses was problematic, and the tree should be pruned away from the 2 houses and dead branches should be removed as they presented a hazard to persons and property.

Motion to Approve Pruning and Trimming away from houses and Removal of Dead Branches from Zelkova Tree at 8 Buttonwood Street subject to the Commission's standard conditions related to compliance with NJSA 45:15C-11 et seq.

Moved by: Mr. Herzhauser

Seconded by: Ms Wydick

Vote: Approved/Unanimous

- 4.4. Tree Action Request - C. Alan Lightcap, 10 Church Street (Trim Encroaching Branches of Tree Lilac)

The request is to trim the Tree Lilac away from the adjoining building at 8 Church Street. Commission members commented on their inspection of the tree, and concurred that the tree was encroaching on the Applicant's building at 8 Church Street. It was the consensus of the Commission that the tree was small and in poor condition and likely might not survive the pruning, however the encroachment of the branches against the Applicant's building at 8 Church Street was problematic, and the tree should be pruned away from the Applicant's building at 8 Church Street.

Motion to Approve Trimming of encroaching branches of 10 Church Street Tree Lilac away from the building at 8 Church Street subject to the Commission's standard conditions related to compliance with NJSA 45:15C-11 et seq.

Moved by: Mr. Herzhauser

Seconded by: Mr. Legere

Vote: Approved/Unanimous

- 4.5. Planning Board Referral - Michael Burns, Architect, 51 Bridge Street site plan approval contingency.

To compensate for tree loss at Mr. Burns' 51 Bridge Street project, the Commission has been asked to recommendation the species of 2 Shade Trees to be planted at locations selected by the Commission. The consensus of the Commission Members was that there had been insufficient time to formulate a decision on the location of 2 additional Shade Trees, and the selected location(s) would determine the species to be selected. The matter was deferred to the August 2021 Meeting.

Agenda Item 5. Old Business

- 5.1 Parks and Recreation Commission Referral - Commission Determination on the revised Master Landscape Plan for Sheridan Park.

Mr. Herzhauser requested the Commission's consensus regarding the revised landscape designs prepared by Carl Molter of Indigenous Ingenuities dated June 30, 2021. Specifically, if the 6/30/21 revisions addressed the Commission's concerns and direction as expressed in the Commission's letter to Mary Ann Borge dated July 6, 2021. It was the Commission's consensus that, conceptually, the 6/30/21 design satisfied the Commission's concern that the root system of the specimen Oak at the corner George and York Streets be protected from disturbance. However, the 6/30/21 revised drawing appears to indicate that the stepping stone path running along the George Street side of the cannon extends a little beyond nose of the cannon. It was agreed that this detail could be addressed in conversation with the Parks and Recreation Commission, and that Shade Tree Commission Members could be present during the landscape work to give guidance to protect the Oak Tree and assure the stone path does not extend beyond the tip of the cannon.

Motion to Approve the 6/30/21 Revision of the Master Landscape Plan for Sheridan Park as prepared by Indigenous Ingenuities with the understanding that the stepping stone path on the George Street side of the cannon not extend beyond the tip of the cannon.

Moved by: Mr. Herzhauser

Seconded by: Ms. Wydick

Vote: Approved/Unanimous

- 5.2 Newsletter Topic - Commission members expressed concerns that the City is losing large numbers of trees to Emerald Ash Borer, Bacterial Leaf Scorch and other diseases and it is necessary to encourage more home owners to plant trees to compensate for these ongoing losses. Mr. Leger requested that the next Commission contribution to the City's newsletter solicit property owners to indicate their desire for trees so that the Commission has a ready list of possible locations when it next has access to trees and funding.

Agenda Item 6. Announcements

None

Agenda Item 7. Public/Commission Member Comments

Commission Members discussed how long a Tree Action Request Approval should be valid. Mr. Herzhauser noted that approval was issued in June of 2019 to trim dead branches on the Ash Tree at 9 York Street, but the home owner took no action for 2 years. In the interim falling branches became a hazard. Mr. Legere suggested approvals should sunset 1 year from the date of issue. This sunset language could be included in the approval letters, but it may be necessary to amend the Shade Tree Ordinance to do so. The issue could merit consideration by City's Counsel.

Agenda Item 8. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Herzhauser requested a motion to adjourn.

Motion to Adjourn Moved by: Ms. Pettit

Seconded by: Ms. Wydick

Vote: Unanimous

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40PM

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

BY: Helen Pettit (Acting Recording Secretary)



Plant Schedules

| ID | Quantity | Latin Name | Common Name |
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Herbaceous Plantings Key

Medium height perennials/grasses mix 18"-30"

