

February 9, 2023

The Meeting of the Middlesex Shade Tree Commission was held on the above date at the Middlesex Borough Hall and called to order by Chairman Jason Bond with the following comments:

“This meeting is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law in that the requirements of the law have been met by the Annual Meeting Notice which has been forwarded to the Courier News and posted in the Municipal Building on December 12, 2022”

Members:                 Jason Bond  
                                  Sean Johnson  
                                  Jim Gorman  
                                  Frank Ryan  
                                  Jeff Killian

Council Rep.:            Doug Rex

Secretary                Linda Chismar

Chairman Bond opened the meeting to the public.

Bruce DeRoma, 428 First Street attended the meeting, and questioned the status of his concern on the tree in front of 424 First Street.

Chairman Bond indicated that he will contact the neighbor and discuss this tree and Mr. DeRoma's concerns with him.

Seeing that there was no further public participation, Chairman Bond closed the public portion of the meeting.

Mr. Gorman made a motion to approve the January 12, 2023 Meeting Minutes as amended seconded by Jeff Killian and carried by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

Chairman Bond, along with all the members present reviewed the January, 2023 Finance Report.

#### Communications

1. 717 Hazelwood Avenue – Chairman Bond will go out to look at the 2 trees on the corner of Raphael and Hazelwood that were requested to be pruned.

#### Work Agenda

1. 206 Walnut Street – Mr. Johnson will follow up on this younger oak tree and report back.

2. 428 First Street – Chairman Bond will go out to speak with neighbors regarding potential removal of this tree and investigate further.
3. Tree on the corner of Oak and Ashland – Chairman Bond and Mr. Ryan will go out to look at the borough tree that appears to have dead limbs that resident requested to be trimmed.
4. 805 Drake Avenue – Mr. Bond and Mr. Ryan looked at this tree that is a borough tree and must be removed.
5. 345 Cook Avenue – The pin oak on the side road has a branch that broke out. This needs a 2” dead wood prune. This tree on Pierrepont is closest to driveway.
6. 351 Beechwood Avenue – Mr. Ryan will assess the tree in front of this property.

#### Unfinished Business

- A. Shade Tree – Chapter 395 Revisions – this will be tabled until the March meeting.

#### New Business

- A. Update on Fall Planting – Secretary has checked with Jeff Boltzer and was notified that this was completed with no issues.
- B. Budget Update – Secretary reported that there is \$215.00 left in the 2022 Budget, and the Shade Tree Commission received \$15,000 in their 2023 Temporary Budget.
- C. 2023 Budget/Capital Budget/Tree Management Plan – Commission was requested to do their homework on any potential Shade Tree grants, as we now have a contractor (Bruno Associates) that will help to apply for grants. Commission also discussed Arbor Pro, based out of California which is handling Bound Brook’s Tree Inventory.
- D. The Tree Management Plan was completed and submitted by the Shade Tree Secretary.
- E. Commission discussed that in order to stay compliant for the submission of the Tree Management Plan we must be more proactive and ensure that 3 members/employees attend classes during the year. Also, they must remember to sign in when attending these programs.
- F. Shade Tree Secretary ordered from the NJ Forest Service Nursery a box of Redbud and 1 box of Northern Red Oak Tube Seedlings.
- G. Commission discussed planting a Cucumber Magnolia in memory of John Sweeney and this would also represent the 2023 Arbor Day Tree. This event will coincide with the Governing Body’s observance of John Sweeney. It will probably be held on a Tuesday Council Meeting night.

Chairman Bond moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Frank Ryan and carried by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

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Linda Chismar, Secretary

NEXT SHADE TREE COMMISSION MEETING  
THURSDAY,  
MARCH 9, 2023 – 7 PM

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please call Linda at 732-356-7400, Ext. 238