

NEW HOPE BOROUGH SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes for June 19, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by Gloria Broeker, Chairperson

Others present: Anita Maximo; Frank DeLuca; Laurie McHugh, Council Liaison

Absent: Ron Gering; Jim Ennis, Zoning Manager

The minutes for the May 15th meeting were approved.

Old Business:

- Pending items:
 - Letters to property owners regarding dead trees; update based on a physical review of trees.
Update: It is difficult to determine, based on how some trees are situated, who the property owners are. Gloria sent Jim Ennis the updated shade tree inventory so that he can assist with this. Waiting for Jim to get back to us on the property owners that should be notified of tree issues. Some are on North Main Street, another is on West Mechanic Street. Four other property owners were talked to about specific tree issues.
 - Riverwoods HOA communication regarding zoning and STC compliance. **Update:** The Commission has reviewed jurisdiction for oversight of street trees in Riverwoods and determined that it does not have jurisdiction, but the Zoning ordinance does apply for any trees over 15 inches in diameter. Gloria will attend the annual Riverwoods HOA meeting to provide this information to home owners.
 - Gloria is following up with Mike Falcone, T&T Tree Service, on the status of trees at 44 S. Main Street (Farley's). The two cherry trees need to be removed and replaced. Need to find out when the work will be done and if T&T is certified to do the installation of permeable material for tree pits.

New Business

- New applications: None.
- There is an empty tree pit in front of the empty store at 122 S. Main Street. Recommend having Dept. of Public Works fill in the tree pit with concrete as it is too small for a tree and there are trees nearby on this property. The pit was filled with mulch but remains a trip hazard. Laurie will contact Tom Carroll about this issue.
- Review of long-term plans for the STC:
 - Tree City USA: Anita provided material for review and discussion on the Tree City USA program. The program provides a framework for sustainable urban forestry. It has 4 standards that need to be met including: having a tree board or commission responsible for tree care; having a tree care ordinance; having an annual budget of \$2.00 or more per capita for tree planting and maintenance; and, having an Arbor Day proclamation and observation. Benefits include recognition as a member, and preference for certain grants for trees and green space. After discussion it was decided to provide information to Council at their next work session and pursue having New Hope become a Tree City USA member.
 - Anita recommended a site visit to W. Bridge Street to evaluate tree pits for the installation of PorousPave. We will do a site visit on Tuesday, June 25 at 10:00am. Meet at the corner of Bridge and Main streets.
 - Establish a long-range street tree replacement plan, incorporating prudent risk management techniques.
- Need to identify a Chair for the July meeting as Gloria will not be able to attend. Anita will chair the July meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Next meeting: 7:00 pm on July 17, 2019