

Shade Tree Commission Minutes & Recommendations to Council

2/20/18 7:00-8:00pm Community Center

Attended: Christian Lee, Carolyn Broullon, Nancy Valinoti

Absent: Chris Francy, Patricia Japngie, Nancy Messina

Items & Actions

1. **Join Tree City USA** – The Tree City USA program has been greening up cities and towns across America since 1976. It is a nationwide movement that provides the framework necessary for communities to manage and expand their public trees. More than 3,400 communities have made the commitment to becoming a Tree City USA. They have achieved Tree City USA status by meeting four core standards of sound urban forestry management:
 1. Maintaining a tree board or department [Our Shade Tree Commission qualifies]
 2. Having a community tree ordinance [Borough Code 22-1 qualifies]
 3. Spending at least \$2 per capita per year on urban forestry, toward the planting, care and removal of city trees and the planning efforts to make those things happen. [We would need approximately \$10,000 in the 2018 budget for this.]
 4. Celebrating Arbor Day [April 27th this year]

By joining, we will get state and national recognition, this will help in securing grants for tree related projects. More information here:

<https://www.arborday.org/programs/treecityusa/about.cfm>

2. **Tree Maintenance**

1. Christian continues to work with DPW and the Monmouth County STC. In the spring, MCSTC will plant new trees on Bay Ave where those that died over winter and those grates that were empty. Confirmed Countu will plant Eastern Redbuds.
2. Explore with Administration and DPW if we can purchase gator bags for tree watering.
3. **Public Comment** – Resident Michael Kovic enquired about tree trimming on Bayview St. Neighbors want to chip in to trim large tree and asked if Borough would do so as well. Administrator confirmed contributing \$200 towards this end. Tree Expert to submit W-9 and NJ Business registration Certificate to Boro.

Follow-up

Christian – Continue to work with DPW and outside vendors to maintain Boro trees. Also continue discussions with the County STC & explore help they can lend in shared services.

Nancy M – Meet with Littoral Society for input on trees on Slope/around town.

Carolyn – Discus with Council the \$10,000 budget item

For 3/20 Meeting:

Review items above

Address new business