

## Shade Tree Commission Minutes & Recommendations to Council

3/21/17 7:00-8:00pm Community Center

Attended: Christian, Nancy V, Carolyn, Nancy M

Absent: Chris

### Items discussed

- [ **Sprinkler Ordinance** – Brian C continuing to work with Dave, Paul & Dale.
- [ **Locust & Trees of Heaven [Ailanthus]** – Need to concentrate on cutting these down, perhaps Boro can cut up and sell the firewood.
- [ **JCPL** – During their recent trimming, they left larger pieces too big for chipper. Can DPW bring to yard and cut up for residents? Perhaps sell as above?
- [ **Joint action** – Green Team has submitted a \$20,000 grant for an “Innovative Community Project” entitled Steep Slope Stabilization through Planting Proper Vegetation as an Earth Day Initiative in conjunction with an arborist, Shade Tree, EC and Communications committees. Slope now is covered in invasive ivy and locust trees among other non-native vegetation. Christian will follow up with Brookdale and Rutgers to see if we can tap into their Master Gardener and/or Horticulture programs for free input of Certified Tree Experts.
- [ **Officers elected:** Chair = Christian, Vice-Chair = Chris, Secretary = CB
- [ **By-Laws Approved**
- [ **Tree Policy** – Can we mirror the policy of Long Branch pasted from their website below without having to change the Tree Ordinance?  
<http://www.visitlongbranch.com/departments/public-works/44-public-works/public-work-divisions/94-streets-division-leaves-branches-permits-snow-trees>

### **Tree trimming and removal**

All trees in the City of Long Branch are owned by and are the responsibility of the property owner for the premises they grow in. That includes all trees in the “right of way” located between the sidewalk and the curb.

The only trees owned by the City for which Public Works is responsible to maintain are on municipally owned property.

In an emergency, Public Works may cut a fallen tree in a roadway, however final disposition of the tree is the responsibility of the property owner.

### Actions & Follow-up

Christian – Speak with local Colleges.

Carolyn – Follow up with Brian C sprinkler ordinance.

### **For 4/18 Meeting:**

Review items above

Address new business