

**Freehold Township Shade Tree Commission**  
**June 1, 2016 Meeting 7:30 pm**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Floor Mayor's Conference Room 110**

**Minutes**

1. **Meeting Called to Order:** 7:33 Thom Ritchie
2. **Present-** Thom Ritchie, Tara McQuade, Lester Preston, Jeanne Paterson, Greg Hanley
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Announcement of Open Public Meeting Act-**Observed
5. **Meeting Minutes-**
  - a. **May 4<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes** Jeanne made a motion to approve, Greg seconded. No further discussion or comments, all were in favor.
6. **Guests:**
  - a. **Steve Buffett, Mary Kate/Tom Jennings- 71 Heritage Dr. -** Mr. Buffett had Aspen Tree Expert Co, Inc. inspect the trees and a report was provided. Mr. Buffett and family plan to replace the trees. Thom suggested spacing at least 50'. Replacement trees of size 2.5-3" is required, and use of tree from the list. Tara made a motion for the homeowner to be able to remove the 3 trees. Jeanne seconded
  - b. **Washington Phillips, LLC:** Damien Mornhineway Denied TRP on Old Mill Rd. After review of plans, heritage trees need more information. Protocols and procedures need to be followed in order for the STC to make an informed decision.
  - c. **Legend Hollow:** Roy De Boer, Rich Pinter, Gustave De Blasio regarding the removal of 2 heritage trees (*Acer saccharinum*). Other heritage trees will be protected from the construction by fencing around the dripline of the many trees. The silver maples are likely hazard trees based on the CTE's opinion (Gustave DeBlasio). The foliage density is dwindling, the large trunk cavity is prevalent and the aesthetic value is low. There was sufficient evidence that the tree should be removed. Professionally, this applicant provided excellent and thorough information and the STC was impressed.
  - d. **Heartwood Ecological Consulting:** Mike LaMana Advance Auto site was a commercial site that will need to be cleared, mostly Bradford pears, poison ivy, Asiatic bittersweet. Only 3 heritage trees HEC #11 (*Acer rubrum*), HEC #26 (*Picea abies*) and HEC# 55-*Acer rubrum* are present. Only one (HEC#11) is requested to be removed due to hazard and has no value based on condition, an appraisal would not be appropriate here. A motion was made by Greg and seconded by Jeanne to approve the removal of HEC#11 without restitution due to condition. In addition, a large quantity of trees to be removed is listed, but none are heritage. A fee was assessed by Scott Higgins on the Tree Removal Permit but we are not sure where the amount came from. It is possible that is from the Land Use Ordinance.
7. **Unfinished Business:**
  - a. **i-Tree inventory-**tabled
8. **New Business**
  - a. **Shade Tree Monthly Report-** Reviewed and discussed
  - b. **Correspondence-** got the CFMP approved
  - c. **Good and Welfare-**
9. **Adjourned at 9:07**