

FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP SHADE TREE COMMISSION

October 2, 2019 Meeting - 7:30 PM

1st Floor- Room 110

Meeting Minutes

1. **Meeting Called to Order:** 7:30pm Thom Ritchie
2. **Present-** Tara McQuade, Jeanne Patterson, Thom Ritchie, Bill Brash, Nancy Mac Neill, Lester Preston, Stacy Ehling
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Guests/Other:** Michael Mills
5. **Announcement of Open Public Meeting Act**

In accordance with the Open Public Meeting Law, (c231, P.L. 1975) this meeting was announced by posting a notice on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building reserved for that purpose, by mailing such notice to the offices of the official newspapers and the Township and filing such notice with the Township Clerk.

6. **Meeting Minutes:** September Minutes were approved unanimously

7. **Unfinished Business:**

- a. 305 Rock Oak Drive- improperly pruned street trees, code enforcement will be contacted
- b. iTree inventory- Bill will email Mike Martini, regarding the program and getting the information readily available to STC and Karen Ketcham. Discussion continued about the program itself, getting trained and using iTree to keep the inventory current.
- c. EAB monitoring- discussion about the monitoring for infestations and communicating with homeowners ensued. Using the tree inventory, homeowners can be alerted. Public awareness brochure was passed around and we can target mailers to residents with known ash trees (iTree). Awareness will enable residents to decide to treat or remove trees of concern. Spring windshield inspection should be effective to track trees.
 - i. Lester will fill out Ash tree form to help formulate the township plan
 - ii. Bill will follow up with Mike Martini and Karen about the addresses.
 - iii. Lester agrees that we should send information during the January mailing to alert residents to the issue
- d. Fall 2019 Shade tree replacements on Stillwells
- e. Tree Program Flyer discussed
- f. DPMA replacements-need watering regularly until established, gator bags would be a smart purchase
 - i. Paths at DPMA look great!
- g. Update on CTE change to LTE in ordinances, ANSI standards, should be covered in all Township documents and will reflect current standards.
- h. Continued enforcement of Township Shade Tree Ordinances- discussion
- i. DPW at STC-representation
- j. 2020 Arbor Day (anniversary photo contest)- flyers went out to many different parties

8. **New Business:**

- a. **Shade Tree Monthly Report-** reviewed and discussed

Good and Welfare: Shade Tree Federation Annual Conference- 10/24 and 10/25 in AC

9. **Open Public Discussion:** Mr. Mills is trying to help the township plan around the EAB infestation. Are we developing a checklist, what ideas are being floated for disposal, tracking and awareness.

- a. Mr Mills is interested in action. He urges the Township to act and would like to help plan and think creatively. His thoughts are entered into the record as a document and follows.

10. **Meeting Adjourned** 9:03

Minutes recorded and submitted by Tara McQuade