

Allentown Shade Tree Commission
January 28, 2021 7:00 pm
2021 Reorganization Meeting
Council Room, Allentown Municipal Building
8 North Main Street, Allentown, NJ

Minutes

Call to Order Terry Brown called the meeting to order at 7 PM via zoom and phone.

Salute to the Flag

Roll Call

Terry Brown - present
Kathy Fidler - present
Bob Mayer - present
Lisa Strovinsky - present
Suzanne Valpreda - present
Rob Strovinski - present



Compliance Statement was read by Suzanne Valpreda

Approval of Minutes Kathy Fidler made a motion to accept the minutes from the December 17, 2020 meeting. Lisa Strovinsky seconded the motion which passed by a voice vote.

Announcements and Information

Michael Kamer and Michael Sullivan will be appointed new members of Allentown STC at the February 2, 2021 Borough Council meeting.

Current members of STC decided to name Kristine and Kyle Hyer as Associates of STC.

Our Arbor Day Celebration will be a pruning event including a pruning course to be held in Heritage Park on a date to be decided. Kathy also proposed offering a few, maybe 10, small trees to the public. Lisa suggested purchasing native trees from Pineland Nursery.

We currently have \$1,000 in our Commemorative Tree Program

STC Volunteer Hours Total volunteer hours for January are 39.5.

Public Participation Kristine and Kyle Hyer attended the meeting.

Old Business

Suzanne will submit the 2020 NJUCF Program Annual Accomplishment Report during the first week of February. The report is due by February 15, 2021.

Lisa has completed the list of ground covers for sunny locations. She advised we need to use a mix of plants with natives being the main plants. A mix of plant material will add interest due to difference in height, texture and color of both blooms and foliage. Kathy has extra Liriope she will donate.

Terry met with the Environmental Commission to develop an Invasive Plant Ordinance. Members of STC after reviewing the ordinance decided the amount of the fine should be changed to "\$50 a day". Bob will review the ordinance for legal content after which it will be passed on to Borough Council.

New Business

Lisa presented a list of plant material to be used under the pine trees in Sensi Park. After receiving the size of the area to be planted she will work up a plan and cost estimate. The planting needs to be redone as the current plants have died and to prevent erosion. Kathy and Suzanne have Lily of the Valley to donate to the project.

Terry submitted our application for Tree City Growth Award in December.

Due to the problem with the burnout of the grass in the new meadow in Heritage Park the area will be tilled down 4 inches and seeded in the spring. The Environmental Commission is planning to plant a 5,000 square foot meadow using plugs adjacent to the STC 10,000 square foot meadow.

Members agreed that STC needs to communicate information on the Spotted Lantern Fly and our Commemorative Tree Program using the Allentown website, the STC website, social media and local newspapers.

Lisa spoke with Joan Leonard of the Collingswood STC about their program. Members were interested in hearing more about Collingswood STC, Lisa will ask Joan if she would give a talk about their program.

Adjournment Terry adjourned the meeting at 7:50 PM