

Allentown Shade Tree Commission
August 25, 2022 7:00 pm
Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/92252581473> Meeting ID 922 5258 1473
Phone in 1-646-558-8656

Minutes

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Terry Brown

Salute to the Flag

Roll Call

Terry Brown - present
Kristine Hyer - excused
Bob Mayer - present
Lisa Strovinsky - excused
Michael Sullivan - present
Suzanne Valpreda - present
Rob Stovinsky - excused



Compliance Statement was read by Suzanne Valpreda

Approval of Minutes Bob Mayer made a motion to accept the minutes from the July 28, 2022 meeting. Mike Sullivan seconded the motion that passed by a voice vote.

STC Volunteer Hours Total volunteer hours for August are 28.

Public Participation There was no public participation.

Old Business

DPW removed the two willows and the second trunk on the Kentucky Coffee Tree we discussed at the July meeting. We agreed that a large tree at the corner of Broad Street has become a hazard and should be removed.

Terry told us that one of our commemorative Oak trees and a Black Gum in the Black Gum grove were cut down using a hand saw by vandals. Terry will tell Borough Council about this ongoing problem. In the past year several Paw Paw trees in Heritage Park and 5 Dogwood trees in Farmer Park have also been vandalized.

Members decided to plant several new trees. Two new Black Gums will be planted, one to replace the damaged tree in the Black Gum grove and one as a specimen tree. Expand the Bald Cypress grove by adding three new trees. Replace the dead Sycamore at the Pearl Street parking lot with a new Sycamore and replace the damaged commemorative tree. Mike suggested planting a Cornelian Cherry (Cornus mas) as a specimen tree.

Terry will schedule the re-inventory of Borough street trees for Monday or Tuesday evening in early September.

The Tree and Trails of Heritage Park Tour will be scheduled for the week of September 17th. The tour will be limited to a small group of 10 or 12 with Terry will giving the tour.

Pruning and the removal of invasive plants in Heritage Park will be scheduled for early October when the weather is cooler.

New Business

Due to the drought and hot weather this summer many of the newly planted borough trees are not doing well, this lead to a discussion about watering them. Lisa made one suggestion via email to asking residents living near a new tree to water them. STC has information sheets on the care of new trees that could be given to willing homeowners or posted on the borough website. Another idea is using the borough water truck manned by STC members to water the new trees. Terry will ask Borough if that would be possible.

Lisa also voiced concern via email about the maintenance of our Street Lawn gardens and new plants for the gardens that she is caring for. Suzanne will contact her to organize a work party in September.

It was decided not hold our fall tree sale due to the unfavorable weather conditions for planting trees.

Suzanne asked if STC is going to have a table at the Allentown Fall Festival. She will check for information about the festival and email it to members.

Adjournment Bob made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 PM.