Allentown Shade Tree Commission
March 26th, 2026 7:00 pm Agenda
Zoom - https://zoom.us/j/92252581473 Meeting ID 922 5258 1473
Phone in 1-646-558-8656

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm

Salute to the Flag

Role Call

Terry Brown - Present
Bob Mayer - Present
Lisa Strovinsky - Excused
Michael Sullivan - Present
Suzanne Valpreda - Present
Valerie Pellecchia - Present
John Elder (Council liaison) - Present

Compliance Statement

In compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act" Chapter 231, PL. 1975, Section 5, adequate notice has been given of the meeting by posting a Notice in a public place and by transmitting a Notice to two newspapers, THE TIMES and the ASBURY PARK PRESS as required by law.

Approval of Minutes

Not all members were able to review the February minutes. Motion to approve the February 2026 minutes will be presented at the April meeting.

Announcements and Information STC Volunteer Hours

- Terry and Lisa met with Tom Buffa regarding the Trees for Schools grant. The planting of 150 trees has been fully approved, and planting will begin in warmer weather. With the grant, water truck tanks were purchased which will also allow STC to plant trees in the future.
- Terry and Lisa met with Tom Buffa and Taylor Sapudar for a park assessment. They identified areas of the parks that need attention, and DPW assistance. They also recommended increasing the size of the meadow.

Terry Brown - 24 hrs
Bob Mayer - 1 hr
Lisa Strovinsky - X
Michael Sullivan - 1 hr (February) hrs, 1 (March)
Suzanne Valpreda - 1 hr (need Jan)
Valerie Pellecchia - 2 hrs (February), 8 hours (March)
John Elder - 4 hrs

Public Participation

There was no one present for public participation

Old Business

- Vines on the trees in the Borough
    - Lisa is working on the write up for the vines on trees. While the STC is doing clean up, we will encourage members of the public to come out to demonstrate how to remove the invasive and Ivy.
- "Champion" tree program to bring awareness to the trees we have in town.

New Business

- Liberty Tree planting
    - Terry placed the order for the Princeton Elm through Pleasant Run Nursery and received the plaque. The commission proposes incorporating the tree planting/plaque placement into the 250th anniversary celebration. Bob also pitched partnering with the Sons of the American Revolution. STC will communicate with the appropriate parties to discuss options. The tree will be planted soon after the tree is received, and plaque will be mounted on a post.
- Arbor Day plant sale
    - STC partnered with the Garden club for a native plant sale. Online orders will need to be in by April 12th, 2026. Members of the public who are not members of the garden club should email Terry to be added to the list. Pick up will be April 17th-18th.
- Schedule pruning
    - Pruning is scheduled for April 7th at 6:00 pm on Church and Main Street.
    - John notified the commission of an email that came from a member of the public regarding an overgrown tree on North Main Street. The STC will prune this tree on April 7th.
- CEU training
    - Terry will reach out to Kevin to schedule training. Tom would also like to have his team receive training as well. STC and Tom's team will come together for the training course.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52pm