

Allentown Shade Tree Commission
January 27, 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 Terry Brown called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM via zoom.

Salute to the Flag

Roll Call

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

Compliance Statement was read by Suzanne Valpreda

Announcements and Information Mike made a motion which was seconded by Kristine that Terry Brown and Suzanne Valpreda continue in their positions as Chair and Secretary for 2022. Terry and Suzanne agreed and the motion passed with a voice vote.

Although Rob Strovinsky is no long a Borough Councilman he will continue as the Council Liaison for STC.

Public Participation There was no public participation

New Business

Mayor Fritts is reviewing applications to fill the open seat on STC

Members decided on a Tree ID or Hazardous Tree ID class given by Kevin Scibilia to earn this year's CEUs. Terry said he would like a person to back him up doing the hazardous tree inspections. Rob will talk to Nick of DPW about taking on that responsibility.

Terry asked Borough Council to increase the STC 2022 Budget to \$19,000 to help cover tree removals and still have funds for planting trees and the Heritage Park Meadow Project. When Suzanne spoke to June Madden earlier in the week June said we would not get \$19,000 but was hoping to increase our budget to \$10,000.

Unfortunately over half the tree tags in Heritage Park and Sensi Park have been broken or damaged. Members decided to change from the current type of tag to a less expensive hanging plastic hanging tag.

The CFMP goals for 2022 including unfinished tasks from 2020/2021 include identification of more town trees and expanding our Tree Trail, promoting our Street Lawn Garden and Homeowner Tree Planting Projects and working on the Heritage Park Meadow.

Lisa suggested Heidi Hesselien of Pleasant Run Nursery will be retiring this year and may be available to help with tree ID. A plan/procedure is needed for both our Street Lawn Garden and Homeowner Tree Planting projects. Suzanne will work on a plan for the Homeowner Tree Planting Project first and then one for the Street Lawn Garden Project. We will also schedule a group tree pruning session in Heritage Park for early spring.

Lisa suggested STC sponsoring a poster contest through the High School and Middle School art program as our Arbor Day celebration. The prize would be a tree planted in honor of the winning student. Kristine suggested having a tree scavenger hunt for younger children.

Terry asked members to look online for grants we may be interested in applying for. Kristine will research STC starting an instagram account.

The 2022 STC Meeting dates – February 24, March 24, April 28, May 26, June 23, July 28, August 25, September 22, October 27, November 17, December 15 and January 26, 2023 were approved by the STC members.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.