

Allentown Shade Tree Commission
February 24, 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 7:02 PM via Zoom

Salute to the Flag

Roll Call

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



Compliance Statement was read by Suzanne Valpreda

Approval of Minutes Kristine Hyer made a motion to accept the minutes from the February 24, 2022 meeting. Lisa Strovinsky seconded the motion that passed by a voice vote.

Announcements and Information

STC Volunteer Hours The total volunteer hours for January and February are 41.5.

Public Participation There was no public participation

Old Business

The NJUCF Annual Accomplishment Report was submitted on February 7, 2022

Per Laurie Roth, Municipal Clerk, the Historic Preservation Commission is meeting on the same dates in November and December 2022 as STC. If we are able to meet in person this will not be a problem. But it will be if we have to meet using Zoom as Allentown can only host one Zoom meeting at a time.

Allentown continues to be a Tree City and has been awarded the Tree City Growth Award.

Terry will contact Kevin Scibilia to schedule Tree Identification course.

Kristine will set up an Instagram account for STC.

Suzanne explained the Homeowner Tree Planting Plan she wrote. Other points discussed were; would STC help pay for the trees, if done in the fall STC could purchase trees through Fernbrook's inventory reduction sale, posting a tree journal on Instagram and would STC conduct the program through the entire town this year or section by section over several years. Developing a plan for the expansion of the Street Lawn Gardens will be revisited later in the spring.

Terry found inexpensive aluminum tree tags to replace the damaged tags. While we were discussing the tree tags Kristine found a aluminum stamping kit on Amazon. Lisa mentioned Pleasant Run Nursery has a machine that makes waterproof labels we may be able to use. She will check with Richard and Heidi.

Connor from DPW is interested in learning how to identifying Hazardous Tree to be backup for STC. Rob will talk to Nick about Connor taking the class which is given in the spring and fall.

New Business

Lisa spoke to UFRSD Superintendent, Mark Guteri, about our idea of an Art Competition to celebrate Arbor Day. He was very interested and though it should be open to all High School students. During the discussion Bob looked online for similar competitions to see how they were conducted. Some of our idea are; the art piece should be a 2 dimensional work including photographs featuring trees, STC and representatives from the high school would do the judging, the winner will be given a certificate and have a tree planted in their honor, posting the competition on Instagram and the art work would be used as a posted for STC,

Terry asked our opinion on giving a Trees and Trails of Heritage Park Tour to small groups as part of our Arbor Day Celebration. Everyone thought it is a good idea.

Terry asked members to consider being his backup with our Commemorative Tree Program. Besides contacting the interested party it requires about an hour and a half of work for each tree. Also STC decided that any decorations put on or near the commemorative tree could remain for 6 months and then be removed.

The Parks and Public Spaces Planning Committee has asked STC to join them in improving Farmer Park. DPW will be clearing brush, removing old shrubs and preparing the park for planting of new trees and shrubs.

Lisa will ask Heidi Hesselein from Pleasant Run Nursery if she like to help STC identify trees for our tree trail guide.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourn at 8:16 PM.