

**Allentown Shade Tree Commission**

**April 27, 2023 7:00 pm Agenda**

Zoom - <https://zoom.us/j/92252581473> Meeting ID 922 5258 1473

Phone in 1-646-558-8656

**Call to Order:** 7:12pm

**Salute to the Flag**

**Roll Call**

- Terry Brown
- Kristine Hyer
- Bob Mayer
- Lisa Strovinsky
- Michael Sullivan
- Suzanne Valpreda-absent
- Rob Stovinsky, Council Liaison



**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** from the March 23, 2023 meeting

Mike motions, Bob seconds, motion passes

**Announcements and Information**

**STC Volunteer Hours**

Terry- 22

Kristine- 4

Bob- 1

Suzanne- (not present)

Michael- 3

Lisa- 2

Rob- 2

**Public Participation**

None

**Old Business**

- Hazard Tree Course
  - Wednesday May 10 or Wed May 17 6:00pm or Sat May 13 or Sat May 20 at 2pm. We will follow up on a date that works best for Kevin.
- Tree service injections have been taken care of

**New Business**

- No Net Loss Ordinance
  - According to NJDEP documents, we have 1.5 years to get this figured out. The borough has a committee that wants it done within 60 days
  - Stormwater management is a part of the initiative
  - Princeton Initiative covers most of the important issues
  - Need to include caliber of trees
  - Otherwise, everything looks good to move forward
  - Specify definitions
  - For a healthy tree, we want to be sure we are evaluating before it is cut
  - Need to decide minimum size tree, apply for permit (not to be paid)
  - STC would give permission that it is taken down and replaced and STC would track, potential code enforcement on the ordinance (only for healthy trees)
  - Will follow up on trees that are at minimum 6" in diameter for code enforcement
  - 1 year after removal to replace tree removed
  - Plant tree on property, plant tree in town, or put money to tree fund (~\$250 to be discussed for going rate)
  - Exemptions: PSEG or county or hazardous (nuisance-hazardous and invasive species)
  
- Code enforcement
  - Need to discuss if there will be repercussions for removal of trees without permit
  - Need to create awareness within the community on the ordinance
  - State driven is the focus, not directly borough related
  
- Survey of trees within Allentown
  - Updated info for trees within town limits so we can be up to date on tree removals
  - Need to brainstorm on how to collect tree count (possible survey - TBD)

**Adjournment 8:09pm**