

**City of Lambertville  
SHADE TREE COMMISSION**

**Minutes of October 22, 2018 Meeting**

Attending the meeting were members Art Legere, Helen Pettit, Susan Wydick, and Tom Ogren. Jessica Campo, Emily Goldman and Deborah Galen were absent. In the absence of Chairperson Emily Goldman, Art Legere as Vice Chairperson convened the meeting at 7:45 pm. The meeting was held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

**Approval of Minutes:** Helen made a motion, seconded by Art, to approve the minutes of the September 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. All voted in favor.

**New Business:**

a. Recommended Tree Planting List: Mary Ann Borge of Lambertville Goes Wild asked to speak about the Commission's Recommended Tree Planting List. She presented a list of additional native trees to be added and a list of non-native trees to be deleted. The additional native trees were taken from lists used by New York City, Princeton, and Upper Makefield Township. Although Mary Ann acknowledged that non-native trees were also on NYC's list, she stressed that native trees were best for the environment. There was some discussion of keeping some non-native trees on the Commission's list to provide more flexibility in selecting hardier trees for difficult urban conditions. Commission members agreed to re-visit the recommended tree list and indicated a preference for planting a high percentage of native trees.

b. Tree Removal Request - 16 S. Union Street: There was a brief discussion of an email request of Robert Jordan, V.P., Woodrose Associates, owner of the house at this address, to remove a street tree that was dying and presented a public hazard due to dead limbs. Mr. Jordan was advised by email from Emily, with copies to Commission members, that he submit a Tree Action Request form available online. He refused to do so, however, since he said by email dated September 25 that "immediate" removal of the tree was necessary. (Some Commission members observed that the tree was still standing at the time of the meeting.)

c. Funding for Tree Planting: Tom mentioned that the Commission should consider requesting funds in the 2019 City budget for tree planting. He cited a state statute (N.J.S. 40: 64-11) that Commissions could submit such requests to the governing body in December of each year and that funds could be used to replace dying trees in the downtown such as on Church Street where at least 12 trees planted by City have died.

**Old Business:**

- a. Street Tree Specifications: No discussion
- b. Ordinance Revisions: No discussion
- c. Ash Trees and Emerald Ash Borer: No discussion
- d. Bacterial Leaf Scorch Management Plan: No discussion

e. Tree Replacement - 158 N. Union Street: Art reported that before the meeting he spoke with homeowner Peter Armati about his plans to replace two small trees with larger trees as approved by the Commission on June 25th. The homeowner asked if the City wanted the smaller trees. Art indicated that he would ask Public Works Director Lester Myers if the his crew could plant the trees on Church St.

**Announcements:**

Shade Tree Federation Conference: Helen reported on her attendance at the N.J. Shade Tree Federation annual conference held last month. She earned 5 CEU's for attending both days. Helen distributed several handouts from the conference to Commission members. She felt that the conference was very informative.

Dead Tree Removal: Tom reported that the City had the dead tree at 8 Bridge Street removed a few weeks ago after securing permission from NJ DOT.

**Public Comments:** No additional comments.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Tom Ogren  
Secretary