

# Howell Township Shade Tree Commission

## 1/18/23

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

### Roll Call

Present: Lisa Doud, Rich Mertens, Jerry Barron, Elsie Zecchino, Glenn Cantor

Absent: James Moretti, Tom O'Donnell, Nick Ficorelli, Valerie MacFie

Guest: Paul Novello

Opening Statement

Swearing in New Members: Lisa Doud

Appointments: Lisa Doud, Chair - Glenn Cantor, Vice Chair - Elsie Zecchino, Secretary

December Minutes Approved.

### Emails/Correspondence

- No Mail/emails for the Shade Tree Commission

### DPW Update - Paul Novello

- DPW has completed hazardous tree removal for 4 more Trees bringing total to 136
- Work Order: Completed 4 tree-related complaints, 10 work orders open
- Christmas tree collection complete
- Easy Street - last mowed 9/21/22

### Training

- Waiting on aerial rescue training program to be scheduled

### Other Business

- Shari - CME reach out to get costs for Community Forestry Management Plan
- STC approves moving tree giveaway to April 22nd, combine with Green Fair/Echo Lake hours need to be set
- Forestry to donate tube seedlings for giveaway
- Combine Heritage Tree and Arbor Day educational programs, NJ Audubon speaker
- Shade Tree Trust Fund - \$1,327,764.54

### Existing Business

1. **Volunteers** - Discussed how to recruit additional volunteers
2. **Winston Park , Sat, May 13, Rain Date Sat, May 20**
  - Storage shed needed for plastic tubes
  - Follow up with Paul regarding fence
3. **Easy Street - Potential Date 4/29**
  - Pollinator garden - need to plant remaining plants
  - Volunteers for monthly maintenance
  - Replacement of plants in spring
4. **Existing Gwen Burdge Arboretum**
  - Name change to Tree Preserve?
  - Redo path to tree line, clean up plaques
5. **Arboretum**
  - Planned to commence in 2023.
  - Awaiting comments from MCPS & Town input regarding funding for plants
6. **Soldier Memorial Park and Monmouth Ridings Rain Gardens**
  - Budgeted for materials/plants
  - GT applied for PSEG Grant
7. **Heritage Tree Ordinance**
  - Follow up with town for review & comment

- Subcommittee with Shade Tree Commission will manage process of identify and recognizing heritage trees.

**8. Arbor Day School Program**

- Reach out to schools to confirm dates for program

**9. Spring Seedling Giveaway** - April 22<sup>nd</sup> @ Echo Lake w/Earth Day Celebration

- \* Free seedlings ordered & placed order with NJ Forestry

**10. Potential Trees from Project Approvals**

- Fairfield & Victory Road Projects want to purchase trees in lieu of contribution to tree fund and plant at designated locations in town
- Remainder of trees may be given to the community
- Both projects are pending review

**11. STC Newsletter**

- Articles needed by March
- Lisa-Oak Trees, Rich-Tree Care, Glenn-Community Activity, Elsie-Insects

**New Business**

- May 5<sup>th</sup> - First Energy Grant for Middle School South - Planting 30 fruit trees & giving away 800 seedlings
- April 22<sup>nd</sup> - Earth Day Celebration @ Echo Lake
- TreeKeeper Software - Need additional information
- TShirts with logo

**Plat Review**

Adjourned at 8:50 P.M.