Mar. 12, 2025, Flemington Borough Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes

The Flemington Borough Shade Tree Commission held its meeting both in-person and online. It was held at Borough Hall, 38 Park Avenue, Flemington, NJ 08822, and online through the Zoom platform.

This meeting was held in conformance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Meeting called to order by Jane at 7:09 pm.

In Attendance:

Jane Cannon – chair

Amy Liszt – vice chair

Nancy Schermerhorn - secretary

Justin Schlenger

Trent Levitt - Council liaison

John Gorman

Absent:

Mike DeLuca

Public Comment – (limited to 5 minutes per person) – none.

Reports

Secretary's Report

Approval of February Minutes

- **Justin made a motion to approve. Amy seconded. All ayes. Approved.**

Action item- approved minutes will be submitted for posting to the website. (Nancy)

Monthly Budget Report 10k in adopt a tree. 3800 for operating.

Planning spend item – signs and brochures for public outreach.

Open Items:

- **Adopt-a-Tree – 1 adopt a tree in the works. Awaiting inventory availability in April.**
- **Grant opportunity, Community Forestry Plan and Hazardous Tree Inventory - Deadline has passed for the grant we had previously discussed. Decision taken to table this for two months as this is a complex topic.**
- **New Tree Ordinance - Beth still working on it.**

- **Decision taken to request an update to the ordinance for tree replacement waiver cost to become $900 vs. currently $550. Ordinance chapter 16-32. Subsection 11 + 12. This has not been updated in years. Trent to take this topic to the council.**

- **Plans from Planning Board**
  - **Spark Carwash –plans reviewed for tree removals, trees retained, and new tree plantings. New planting species are hornbeams and honey locust. Due to net reduction of trees planned for the site, they are in the position to pursue the tree replacement waiver option with tree fund amount.**
  - **Nova domus – Justin has the recommendation from us.**

- **Community Outreach planning -**
- **Arbor day is April 25th. Event Plans include an Arbor Day tree planting at the Samuel Fleming Museum. Open to community. Jane called the harmonizers. No call backs received. Jane to try the Madrigals if they can come. 2-4pm are time options. Rutgers landscape nursery to plant the tree at the event. A suggestion was made to Ask Kenny in the Environmental Commission if they are interested in participating with us in our Arbor Day event**

- **Hunterdon County Earth Day Festival event is April 5th at Deer Path Park.**
- **Justin to update the Facebook with a promo item for each adopt a tree and Arbor Day event**

New Items –

- **Stream cleanup event coming soon - Trent has two spots in his group that are open. Justin looking to do this. Trent to send email to Justin with details. That cleanup site is in the borough.**
- **Newsletter is almost finished. Our content was provided. Editing is underway.**

Next Meeting …. April 9th.

Adjournment – motion Justin, and second by Amy.
Time- 8:26

Minutes approved 2025-04-09