

BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY

SHADE TREE COMMISSION



PO BOX 7420
SHREWSBURY, NJ 07702
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MEETING AGENDA

September 7, 2007 –8:30 a.m.

Borough Municipal Hall
419 Sycamore Avenue
Shrewsbury, New Jersey

- I. Announcement of Meeting
- II. Salute to the Flag
- III. Presiding Officer's Statement
- IV. Roll Call
- V. Review of Minutes from August 18, 2007 meeting
- VI. Announcements
- VII. Correspondence
- VIII. New and Unfinished Business
 - A. Newsletter Deadline
 - B. Growth Award Ideas
 - C. Trimming Permits
 - D. Budget
 - E. Fall Tree Planting
- IX. Planning/Zoning Board Site Plans – Martelli at Rosewood
- X. Adjournment – next meeting, 10/13/07

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Minutes of Regular Meeting
Shrewsbury Shade Tree Commission (STC)
Saturday, June 9, 2007
Municipal Hall, Sycamore Avenue, Shrewsbury, New Jersey

Present

Susan Berdahl
Dianne Crilly
Gordon Ogden
Ellen Preissler
Katherine Wilson
Don Burden (Council Liaison)

Absent

Nancy Schmaltz, Chairperson
Miles Svihart
Hermann Allen, Environmental Commission

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In Chairman Schmaltz's absence, Mrs. Preissler began the meeting at 8:40 a.m. by reading the Pledge of Allegiance and reading the Presiding Officer's statement in compliance with P. L. 1975 c. 231, the Open Public Meetings Act. Roll call was taken by secretary, Susan Milnes.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST'S MEETING

Mr. Ogden made a motion to approve July's workshop meeting minutes. Mrs. Wilson seconded the motion.

II. CORRESPONDANCE

- Mrs. Preissler read letter from Mayor Siciliano to Freeholder Lillian Burry expressing shock and outrage over removal of evergreen and white pines from Monmouth County Library property which acted as buffer to adjacent neighborhood. Freeholder Burry was equally shocked, as written in her return letter. She was told that existing trees had an overgrowth of poison ivy inhibiting growth. Plans call for a fence to be erected, as well as planting replacement pines.

Action:

- Ms. Crilly will prepare letter on behalf of STC responding to poison ivy claim and removal of trees, as well as proposed fencing and replanting of trees. Ms. Crilly will speak with Mayor prior to writing letter.
- Tree City USA brochure was handed out which describes events and/or activities STC's may use to qualify for Tree City USA award. A-1, A-4, A-6, A-7, as well as C-8, C-10 and C-11 are possible contenders for Shrewsbury. With regard to A-4 (Local Awards Program), STC discussed recognizing Grove for their consistently beautiful gardens. Mrs. Preissler will reach out to Grove and inquire when their fall theme will be in full

bloom; award can be given at this time. STC will use local newspapers and public announcement board at firehouse to publicize award.

There was a question as to whether ordinance update was included in last year's application or can it be used for 2008? Mrs. Schmaltz will answer this at Sept.'s meeting.

- Garden Club has requested paulownia tree adjacent to Manson Field be removed. It is ruining brick wall which Garden Club would like to do a planting in. STC agrees with removal of tree.
- Monmouth County won Tree City USA award. We are first in state, as well as first in country to win this award!

III. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Tree Trimming Permit – Mrs. Berdahl discussed visit with power company along railroad tracks on west side of borough. Tulip tree adjacent to tracks is an issue. STC sees tree as an integral part of town, yet power company feels if a limb falls on their wire, it will take power out for entire area.

Mrs. Schmaltz will report back whether county must be notified if tree on county property is going to be removed.

Mrs. Berdahl also mentioned that power company's permit is from June 1, 2007 to August 1, 2007. Will new permit be needed since work hasn't begun? Mrs. Preissler will start with borough clerk, Izzy Grieco to find out if a new permit is required. STC would like proof that homeowners have been notified of proposed work adjacent to their properties.

B. Budget – To date, \$211.00 has been spent (\$8007.00 remains). Discussion will continue at September's meeting when Mrs. Schmaltz and Mr. Svikhart can go over their list of proposed tree plantings. It is certain that two trees, possibly lindens (sp.?) will be planted at firehouse, in back.

STC discussed whether borough should have an ordinance requiring homeowners to get a permit before cutting down a tree on their property. How do other towns handle this? Mrs. Berdahl will get a copy of Fair Haven's ordinance and Mr. Ogden will get Rumson's.

D. Martelli at Rosewood – Plans were reviewed but it was difficult to determine what is at issue. STC questioned white pines mentioned in last month's minutes. Also, STC would like to read Dec. '06 letter from STC to Mr. Martelli regarding unfinished landscaping. Mrs. Schmaltz will bring letter to Sept.'s meeting.

E. Library – Mayor Siciliano joined meeting to discuss tree removal. Mayor discussed issue with Ms. Arlene Stump, chair of County's STC. Ms. Stump informed Mayor that library work goes before County's Building and Grounds and therefore County STC is not in decision making process. Ms. Stump would like to have excess dirt made into a berm to separate library from residential area. Borough's STC is not in favor of berm because they do not hold moisture well. Mayor Siciliano encourages STC to write a letter to Ms. Stump expressing our concern regarding idea, as well as letter to county requesting replacement trees be planted, and not just a white fence, with copies to appropriate people.

IV. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, September 8, 2007 at 8:30 a.m. in the Municipal Center.

Susan Milnes, Secretary

