

Borough of Red Bank
Shade Tree Committee
July 25, 2017 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Remedios Quiroz.

Members Present: Bill Brooks, Boris Kofman, Mike Kosberg, Debbie Marks, Remedios Quiroz

Absent:

Ex-officio member: Councilman Erik Yngstrom

Guests: Glenn Carter, Laura Neumann (CME)

Topics Discussed (updates in *italics*)

1. *June 20, 2017 meeting minutes approved.*
2. **Tree Bank.** Investigate where there was no room to plant a tree to pay into a tree bank. – need an ordinance. Bill brought a copy of the ordinance from Rumson. Reviewed it with the Borough Attorney. The language got added to the Tree Protection ordinance. *The language will get added to the Zoning Code. STC will get all PB/ZB plans. Glenn suggests STC make a recommendation on specific species, not just referring to the list.*
3. Bill reported that Red and Black Oaks are susceptible to a fungus. A mature tree in Fair Haven, with no visible external issues, fell due to core rot. Mature Red Bank trees, especially Red Oaks and Sycamores should be examined. Bill is working with Cliff. Suggest doing a windshield survey of all public trees. DPU put it in the budget.
4. **CFMP** – need to get the Planning Board to add it to the Master Plan. **Remedios** will follow up.
5. **Zone 2 inventory update** – Remedios, Boris and Lou DiMento did a few streets. Found a couple of hazardous trees on South St. and added them to the removal list.
6. **West Side Lofts** – Chris Cole and Taylor Murphy presented the revised landscape plan.
 - a. Japanese Tree Lilac and/or Serviceberry (total 5) on W. Front St, and one on each corner of Triumph.
 - b. Honeylocust on Bridge (3) and in front of Triumph (3).
 - c. Japanese Maple or Paperbark Birch might work in the boxes where the bamboos are.
 - d. Chris will drop off a paper plan at Planning Dept.
 - e. Timeframe – if can't find good trees for fall planting, OK to plant next spring.
The recommendations are shown on the updated plan.
7. **CEUs.** Next webinar Aug. 9, 1pm.
8. **STC Info Sheet** – **Debbie** will prepare a draft for everyone's review in time for Aug. 1 National Night Out.
9. Cliff requested that we think about inhibiting the growth of large trees in small spaces. Some species react well (e.g. Sycamore), others don't.
10. **2017 Road Program.** E. Bergen from Branch to Maple. Others are re-surface only: Leighton Ave. from Drs. Parker to Locust (west side), Gold St. parking lot, Prospect north of John. CME has CTEs that can help us if desired. Plan to go out to bid for E. Bergen around November. Can see plans in the fall. Planting will be in the spring 2018.
11. JCP&L pruned some trees (using Davey Tree Service).
12. **Hillside at RBPS.** Superintendent Rumage would like to clean up the hill, including removing dead trees and planting new ones.

Maintenance/planting requests

1. 251 Mechanic - Road Program tree is dead. Notified T&M. Tree has been removed. The replacement should be on High St. Remedios contacted T&M. **Erik** is following up.
2. Public access path at end of Bank St. – The developer planted 15 red oaks along the path. Four appear dead, the rest are stressed out. There are also mulch volcanos. Remedios notified T&M. **Erik** is following up.
3. Garfield PI - Zelkovas next to Walgreens are dead or dying. Remedios notified T&M. **Erik** is following up.
4. 63 Madison - JCP&L removed the guy-wire. DPU will remove the rest.
5. Spring planting – 11 trees (7 Black Tupelos, 4 Serviceberries) have been planted.
 - Four out of seven Tupelos haven't leafed out, one is struggling. NJTF will replace them for free in the fall.
6. Come up with a selection of trees for typical small lots that the Planning & Zoning Dept can give to applicants. – **Bill & Mike.**

7. 22 Wallace St – homeowner concerned about the sidewalk lift by the Honeylocust. May be able to cut the top root. Need to lift the sidewalk and look. Bill met with and Cliff about the lifted sidewalk policy. Cliff will follow up with the borough administration. DPU is going to cut the roots after the homeowner lifts the sidewalk.
8. 17 Buena Pl. Homeowner concerned that the roots of the Bradford Pear are cracking the sidewalk. The sidewalk was last patched up by a handy man. The lift is minimal. Advised the homeowner to replace the sidewalk using a reputable contractor. Debbie will advise the homeowner not to damage the tree. Boris ran into the homeowner, who indicated she may be willing to pay for removing the Bradford Pear, so a nicer tree can be planted. She complained about the mess the berries make. Boris observed that there's rot in the crotch, as well as [in the limbs](#). Debbie reported that the homeowner does not want to pay for the removal at this time.
9. Count Basie Park - Nissan on Newman Springs Rd indicated that some trees on the park side of the may be hazardous. Bill reported that 4 trees need to be removed. DPU got a quote. DPU will pay for the work. Got PO. *Trees removed.*
10. BOE building. Two London Planetrees need to be removed. DPU is handling it. Got PO.
11. 130-132 Broad St – owner asked if they can cut the two lower limbs on the London Planetree. They will be installing light fixtures there and the limbs are close to the building. Boris reported that the lower 2 branches are fairly small, so removing them won't be a big stress on the tree, as long as the work is performed by a professional. <https://goo.gl/photos/P5ZBoCdiphBNPnRf9>
We should see the picture of the limbs they want to remove. Bill will ask the owner to contact RiverCenter. If RiverCenter is OK, DPU can prune the tree with Bill's help. *Pruned by DPU, Bill will correct it.*
12. 21 Buena Pl. – homeowner reported to Ed Zipprich that a Becker Tree Service truck split the pear tree in front of their house. Becker removed the tree. Homeowner will negotiate with Becker for a replacement tree. Elm or Black Tupelo was recommended to match other new trees on the block.
13. Boris sent request to DPU to mulch the trees planted in the last few years. *Most of the trees have been mulched.*
14. Drs. Parker Blvd – some London Plantetrees need to be checked out. JCP&L may be pruning next year and could prune them below wires.
15. Riverside Gardens – DPU will clean up the trees by the bulkhead.
16. *Councilwoman Schwabenbauer asked if trees can be planted on Broad St. near Red Bank Diner. It was determined after the old trees were removed that replacements were not possible.*
17. 282 Spring St. – homeowner reports that the tree is lifting the sidewalk, which was replaced 6 years ago. *Need the policy.*

Planning/Zoning Board Applications

1. *The Brownstones at Red Bank (Catherine & River) - Remedios will request a paper copy*
2. *170 Monmouth – no trees species or size*
3. *Ray Rap (Hudson&Harding) – Remedios will request a paper copy*

Next meeting: Tuesday, August 22, at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Boris Kofman, Secretary

CC: Shade Tree Committee, Mayor & Council, Borough Administrator Stanley Sickels, Planning and Zoning Director Glenn Carter, Public Utilities Director Cliff Keen, Borough Engineer Gregory Valesi, Borough Clerk Pamela Borghi