

Borough of Red Bank  
Shade Tree Committee  
January 17, 2017 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Bill Brooks.

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

Absent: Remedios Quiroz

Ex-officio member: Councilman Erik Yngstrom

**Topics Discussed** (updates in *italics*)

1. *December 20, 2106 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** will bring a copy of the ordinance from other towns for the next meeting. Bill is going to work with Mayor Menna.
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.
4. Subpoena from Levinson – *Boris provided the requested photo to the Boro Attorney and CC'd Erik*
5. CFMP – *need to get the Planning Board to add it to the Master Plan.*
6. Zone 2 inventory update – *will start in spring.*
7. Marine Park construction – *Erik requested DPU to protect the trees.*
8. 2016 Accomplishments Report. **Boris** will send it to the mayor for signature.
9. Tree City USA. **Boris** will apply online.
10. 2017 Budget. \$1500 has been allocated in the temporary budget.

**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** will contact T&M.
2. 185-187 Mechanic St – resident concerned that the Norway Maple is diseased and dropping dead branches. **Bill** and **Mike** will take a look. Boris took a look. It doesn't seem to be an eminent hazard, but there's die-back and leaf scorch. Suggest keeping an eye on it for now and see how it looks in the spring.
3. 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** will notify Ed Herrman (T&M).
4. 3 Brown Pl. – homeowner would like a tree in the planting strip. The strip is only about 2'. **Bill** will find out the ROW to see if it's possible to plant inside the sidewalk.
5. 17 Washington St. Resident believes the tree is diseased. Boris took a look. It's a crabapple, about 6-in DBH. It's been severely pruned and has exfoliating bark, but no signs of disease. Did minor pruning. **Mike** will take a look.
6. 69 East Bergen Pl – homeowner states that the tree has a few branches that are loose causing hazardous conditions. Boris and Bill took a look. Placed on removal list. *The tree has a red X mark.*
7. Garfield Pl - Zelkovas next to Walgreens are dead or dying. **Remedios** will contact T&M.
8. Pruning & removals – Remedios sent Cliff the list. DPU removed all except 69 E. Bergen and 63 Madison (JCP&L needs to remove the guy-wire first). The rest need to be contracted out. **Remedios** sent the list to Cliff and will follow up with Maria Rotolo about the PO. *Boris sent the list to Bill.*
9. N. Prospect Ave – resident emailed about the trees being removed on the bulkhead. Stanley stated that one tree was bad, but both trees needed to be taken out since the contractors needed access to build the bulkhead. He also stated that one of the trees would in time, jeopardize a retaining wall. Stanley said he spoke with both homeowners at the end of the street on the river. **Remedios** will follow up with the resident.
10. Spring planting – Got 3 quotes. NJTF was selected as the lowest. Allocated \$3500, enough for 11 trees (7 Black Tupelos, 4 Serviceberries). PO has been issued and can be used in the spring.
11. Come up with a selection of trees for typical small lots that the Planning&Zoning Dept can give to applicants. – **Bill & Mike**.
12. 74 McLaren (on William) – *neighbors report the Norway Maple is dropping branches. Will follow up in the spring. **Bill** will take a look.*

**Planning/Zoning Board Applications**

1. The Courtyard at Red Bank. Propose Green Giant Arborvitae, 10-12' height, 5' on center. STC is OK with it. STC recommends 2 trees on Prospect Ave or on the lawn. Zig proposed Yellowwood. STC subsequently recommended 3 trees on Prospect Ave. Mr. Pannek pointed out that the front yard has a lot of landscaping and the sidewalk would be less than 4' if trees were planted. Mike agreed. Instead of planting threes, Ms. Carvalho proposed contributing \$500 to the Shade Tree Fund in order to plant 2 trees elsewhere in the boro. Remedios said that it would cost about \$700 to plant 2 trees. Ms. Carvalho said they will check with the applicant and get back to us. Mike made a motion to accept \$700 in lieu of planting trees there, seconded by Remedios. Motion passed unanimously. The condo association approved a donation for \$750. Zoning Board approved the application. The Zoning Board decided that it was not appropriate to take a donation from the applicant. Debbie contacted the ZB Attorney for a clarification. *Meeting between Department Heads and Committee Chairs being planned.*
2. Hampton Inn – no trees along sidewalk. Room for about 5 trees. **Bill** will ask Dina for paper plans.
3. *55 W. Front St. – we like the plan and species. Deviations from the specification must be approved.*

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 21, at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 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 Greg Cannon, Borough Clerk Pamela Borghi