

Borough of Red Bank
Shade Tree Committee
April 16, 2019 Meeting Minutes

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

Members Present: Bill Brooks, Boris Kofman, Remedios Quiroz

Absent: Debbie Marks, David Schmetterer

Ex-officio member:

Guests:

Topics Discussed (updates in *italics*)

1. *March 19 meeting minutes approved.*
2. Zone 4 inventory update.
3. CEUs. Urban Forest Connections Webinar 2nd Wed. *Boris attended a couple of webinars. Bill went to the County Spring Forum.*
4. NJUCF Stewardship Grant. \$30K has been awarded.
 - a. *Sent the Planting & Maintenance Plan to state. Plan approved. If the planting isn't done this spring, will need to amend the grant.*
 - b. *Sent RFQ to 3 contractors.*
 - c. *NJTF cannot plant 5" caliper trees.*
5. Seedlings for Arbor Day. NJ Forestry offering up to 1000 for free. 275 will be provided and will be given out during the Earth Day Expo on April 28, starting at 1 PM; first come, first served. *Cliff will pick up the seedlings this Thursday.*
6. *Arbor Day Proclamation sent to Pam. Will be on the next Council agenda.*
7. *Tree City USA designation granted - 13th year. Boris will place the stickers on the road signs.*
8. *White St. streetscape project. Suggested planting trees along the new path through the parking lots. The northern section of the sidewalk will have Pencil Hollies, but the southern section will have no trees. Remedios will request them.*
9. *Bellhaven. Bill recommended Bald Cypress, Swamp White Oak, Serviceberry. Borough Grant Writer is asking for a support letter. Remedios sent it.*
10. *Marine Park. Concerned about the removal of many trees. Will look at the landscape plan when it becomes available. Borough Grant Writer is asking for a support letter. Remedios sent it.*
11. *Eastside Park. Trees need to be protected during construction. Bill marked the memorial trees. One tree's roots were damaged, but it's not fatal. Bill advised workers on how to cut roots properly.*
12. *James Scavone (RiverCenter) asked about STC's position on keeping holiday lights on trees permanently. Remedios responded that they should be removed as soon as possible because they interfere with trees' natural functions.*
13. *Trees around the Borough Hall and in Riverside Gardens Park have been mulched, but mulch is piled up against the trunks. Cliff notified.*
14. *Should we have a Facebook page? Remedios will consult Ziad.*
15. *323 Shrewsbury Ave - Callery Pear fell. Roots appear to have been cut during road construction. Others may be in similar condition. Bill will discuss with Erik about replacing all trees.*

Maintenance/planting requests

1. *Public access path at end of Bank St. (River's Edge) – The developer planted 15 red oaks along the path. Four appear dead, the rest are stressed out. There are also mulch volcanoes. Remedios and Boris met onsite with the developer Charles Farouk and HOA President Jeff Loonan. The agreement is to replace 4 dying trees and accept \$1500 into the trust fund for 3 trees that have been removed. Mr. Farouk would like to make a payment in lieu replacing any trees. Mr. Loonan does not agree. Bill contacted Mr. Farouk. Mr. Farouk agreed to plant the 4 trees in the spring. The 4 dying trees have been removed.*
2. *Garfield Pl - Zerkovas next to Walgreens are dead or dying. Glenn Carter asked the developer to replace them before the bond can be released.*
3. County trees. Bill is working with the County Div. of Shade Tree on getting hazardous trees removed, including
 - a. *175 Shrewsbury Ave - Bradford Pear*

- b. 152 Broad St - Bradford Pear
4. Trees around Globe Court Garage – many of the trees planted by the hospital are not doing well. Remedios emailed Riverview Medical. Sheila asked for a recommendation. Recommend testing soil ([Cooperative Extension of Monmouth Co](#), Rutgers U) and watering trees after planting.
 5. [Road Program](#). 2019 streets - Pearl, McLaren, Tilton, Grant Pl.
 6. 143 Bridge Ave – Boris reported Zelkova with a vertical crack. **Bill** will take a look when it leaves out.
 7. 132 Leighton Ave. Boris reported Bosque Elm has lost a large limb, recommends removal. **Bill** will look.
 8. Car hit a tree on Harding Rd. **Bill** will ask the County to look at it.
 9. 40 McLaren St. - homeowner wants the tree removed because it's on top of the sewer line. **Bill** will check.
 10. Monmouth St between Bridge and Shrewsbury - DPU wants to remove the 4 trees on the south side. **Bill** will check.
 11. 53 South St. Homeowner requested removal of the Red Maple because the tree roots keep lifting and cracking the sidewalk. The tree has been recently pruned and [appears healthy](#).
 12. 234 River Rd. Homeowner requested removal of the dead tree on the county ROW. DPU will remove it if the County doesn't.
 13. 158 Chestnut St. Chokecherry has been removed, not known by whom.
 14. 91 Bank St. Homeowner requested (verbally to Boris) the removal of the Silver Maple because the tree roots keep clogging the sewer line, which is right under the tree. He understands that the pipe is broken, but cannot afford to replace it right now. He's willing to contribute towards a replacement tree in front of his house. Will wait for the written request.

Planning/Zoning Board Applications

1. 2 Sliverwhite Ave - **Erik** will check with Glenn if the fee will be collected.
2. 42 Monmouth St - updated plan. Same comments as before.
3. 25 Vista Pl. No landscape plan. Based on the frontage, 1 tree would be required. No sidewalk.

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

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Boris Kofman, Secretary

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