

**Borough of Bergenfield
Shade Tree Committee
February 1, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Meeting via Email

Attending Members:

Dan Muller, Chairman
Mike Cassidy
Jules Orkin
Phil Neville, Consultant/DPW Superintendent
Councilman Marc Pascual, Council Liaison
Dixie Rainey, Secretary

Members Absent:

Joe Schade (Dixie mailed Joe 1/4/21 minutes & 2/1/21 agenda via USPS)

December 7, 2020 Meeting Minutes (emailed 1/4/21)

Approval pending.

January 4, 2021 Meeting Minutes (emailed 1/22/21)

Approval pending.

Old Business:

Work Returned by Dan:

10 Irving (Q1) - unoccupied house, neighbor at 3 Annex is requesting inspection of Borough trees at 10 Irving because branches come down in storms. Per Dan 3/1/21 3 Red Maples along Annex Place, keep middle tree, remove east-most tree, inspect west-most tree for pruning or possible removal due to cavities.

Work Returned by Mike/Phil:

22 Shelley (Q1) - states tree looks sick, branches appear dry, branches fall on roof and front yard. Per Phil 3/1/21 removal & repair sidewalk.

Work Returned by Phil/DPW:

Bergenfield Museum trees (Q2) - requesting update on status of trees behind Museum building. Phil will take care of as soon as he can.

195 & 199 Graphic (Q2) - DPW removed 3 Norway Maple trees 1/7/21.

89 Ralph (Q2) - PSE&G contractor states that Maple tree is in decline, requesting approval to remove. Removal approved, DPW removed tree on 1/21/21.

56 Sylvamdur (Q3) - corner tree in front yard, trim request. Private tree, no action necessary.

89 Hallberg (Q4) - states tree is leaning over power lines, to the right of the driveway. Private tree, no action necessary.

18 Homestead (Q4) - trim request. DPW crown raised Oak tree over driveway/front yard & trimmed Pine tree around wires 1/14/21.

Memorial Park (Q4) - removed uprooted Hickory tree at lower Little League field 1/25/21.

4 Surrey (Q4) - DPW crown raised & trimmed deadwood in Sweetgum tree & trimmed off roof 1/12/21.

New Business:

Assigned to Dan:

139 Highgate (Q4) - states branches fall, removal request.

Assigned to Mike:

142 New York (Q1) - states tree looks unstable, concerned it will fall, removal request.

Assigned to Phil/DPW:

81 Bergen (Q2) - states sidewalk pushed up from tree, requesting to know what can be done.

250 N. Prospect (Q2) - states 2 Borough trees are bending over their property, removal request.

186 New Bridge (Q3) - states branch is touching wire & sparks sometimes, worried about fire, requesting to know what can be done.

125 Fairview (Q4) - states Borough replaced sidewalk recently, tree has lifted sidewalk, also believes causing sewer issues, requesting to know what can be done.

50 Hallberg (Q4) - states tree roots lifting up sidewalk, requesting to know what can be done.

Other Business:

Tree City USA annual re-accreditation report due to Arbor Day Foundation on 2/15/21. Dixie will complete & submit.

NJUCF Annual Accomplishment Report (AAR) due to NJDEP on 2/15/21. Dixie will complete & submit.

Tree City USA Virtual Conference 2/10/21, 2/17/21 & 2/24/21 (free of charge this year).

The NJ Shade Tree Federation (NJSTF) is now accepting applications for the William J. Porter Arboricultural Scholarship as well as the Community Tree Project Award:

- The William J. Porter Arboricultural Scholarship is offered to encourage studies and careers in Arboriculture and Urban Forestry. Rutgers students, professionals or volunteers in the industry are eligible to apply. Visit website njstf.org for more information regarding the application process and deadlines for submission.
- The William J. Porter Community Tree Project Award is intended to provide up-front funding for a small project that benefits the tree resource in a community. There will be one awardee per year. The deadline for submission is June 30th. Visit website njstf.org for more information regarding the application process.

195 Graphic (Q2) - claim: tree fell on house & car during 12/24/20-12/25/20 wind storm. Borough staff responded to Borough insurance company, tree was alive when it fell & tree has since been removed.

N. Prospect Sidewalk by South Church Cemetery (Q2) - claim: alleged trip & fall on alleged lifted sidewalk by cemetery. Borough staff responded to Borough insurance company, Phil N. checked trees & said that they are not Borough trees.

Steven Perrone requests to become a member of the Bergenfield Shade Tree Committee. He states that he resides at 96 Porter Ave in Bergenfield. Mr. Perrone states that he was previously Chairman of the New Milford Shade Tree Commission when he lived in New Milford. Request pending.

Proposed 2021 Meeting Dates:

Jan 4th

Feb 1st

Mar 1st

Apr 5th

May 3rd

June 7th

July 12th (second Monday due to July 4th holiday)

Aug 2nd

Sept 13th (second Monday due to Labor Day holiday)

Oct 4th

Nov 1st

Dec 6th

Approval pending.

Next Meeting:

Next meeting will be on 3/1/21 via email, unless members agree otherwise. Approval pending.