

## BOARD OF SHADE TREE & PARKS COMMISSION MEETING

### MEETING MINUTES

March 14, 2018

**Present:** S. Dahl, K. Raschen, J. Sexton, B. Keppler, C. Hittel, D. Minervini, M. Ivanicki, D. Preis, A. Les, C. DiPiazza, H. Tedesco Santos

**Public:** The Katarias 416 Abbott Road, Mr.Shikar 38 Oliver Road, Mr.Sullivan 170 Halsey Street

**Absent:** W.R. Comery, J. Payoczkowski

D. Preis called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and stated that this meeting of the Shade Tree & Parks Commission, as required, has been made public and posted at Borough Hall.

D. Preis asked for a motion to approve last month's minutes. Motion made by M. Ivanicki, seconded by B. Keppler. All in favor.

**Public:**

**38 Oliver Road-** Since 2011 the tree has been giving Mr.Shikar issues each system. It irritates his allergies; the flowers on the trees are a bother in the fall because it attracts bees. He has children, they worry about getting stung. He is renovating his house and the tree stains and rubs the siding. He is open to planting new ones but would really like the current tree removed. D. Preis stated we do not remove live and healthy trees. J. Sexton advised the commission that they should go out and look at the tree before a decision is made. D. Pries agreed and recommended everyone takes a look to see if there are any health related issues with the tree and we will address in April.

**416 Abbott Road-** The tree is about 4 feet away from the drive way, it was that way when the Kataria's moved in. It is uprooting the driveway and sidewalks. K. Raschen explained the procedure for replacing a driveway and that we will come in to remove the roots and coordinate with the contractor at your convenience. K. Raschen also explained that they will have to wait a period between doing the sidewalks and driveway so they should pick which one to do first. The residents chose the driveway. K. Raschen told them to call the office once they're ready to do it. The Kataria's thanked the commission and left.

**170 Halsey Street-** Mr.Sullivan wants to treat his sycamores for anthracnose. The treatment lasts 2-3 years. Anthracnose is not fatal and the commission worries that drilling into the tree to treat it will cause further issues if not done correctly. K. Raschen suggests a preservation for the trees if theyre going to be treated, and it must be done in the spring. K. Raschen suggests \$250.00 per tree. C. Hittel makes a motion to require preservation in the amount of \$250.00 per tree. M. Ivanicki seconded. All in favor.

### **Superintendent's Report:**

**94 Colgate Avenue-** The resident came in to the commission regarding an oak tree dropping acorns in 2013 and the resident was told the tree was healthy, all trees have fruiting bodies, and it will remain. As of recently someone intentionally damaged the back of the tree and a letter for restitution was sent to the current resident. If restitution is not paid a summons will be issued for damaging a town tree.

**204 Denver Road-** K. Raschen checked the trees, no issues were found. He recommends the release of preservation. Motion made by D. Minervini, seconded by B. Keppler.

**234 Hoppers Lane-** a request to remove a tree for driveway, the department sent a letter in response to a request for a curb cut. No excavation within 5 feet of any town tree. Unless it is fixed it will be denied again.

**Tree Wraps-** Brown tree wraps are \$4 each and the white wraps are 4 for \$4. K. Raschen thought it might be a good idea to get the brown so they blend in well and don't worry the residents. Considering the large difference in price K. Raschen is suggesting we use the white at the lower price.

**225 Midland Avenue-** the large Elm tree on Midland Avenue endured severe storm damage during the nor'easter. The whole top of the tree twisted and is sitting precariously. The homeowners have been notified that this tree will be coming down with PD/PSEG assistance. A crane is needed along with Midland Avenue being shut down. School is closed the first week of April and we want it done while there aren't kids in school and less people will be impacted.

**Quinn (nor'easter)-** Photos were passed to commission members of the pile of chips in the pool parking lot. There were 372 man hours, 8 fallen trees and 23 split/damaged trees. 71 locations had limbs down initially, and 34 trees will need corrective pruning as of date. There are also approx. 90 corrective hanger removals. The department is prioritizing the work to get as much done in as little time as possible.

**Authorization to Pay Bills-** Motion to pay bills was made D. Minervini, seconded by C. Hittel. All in favor.

### **Assistant Superintendent's Report:**

**Sidewalks-** The contractor is working, the backlog no longer exists and everything is current. Any remaining locations should be complete by the end of the month.

**Roots**- 47 locations, once the weather breaks the program will start up once again. The snow needs to stop in order for us to begin working on this list. The guys did a great job last season and we don't expect anything different this season.

**Route 17 & Midland Avenue**- Met with the DOT and their landscape architect, only native plants are allowed for the planting. J. Sexton picked plants and flower that help support our local pollinators and the DOT was happy and on board. This project is also on a stand still because of the snow but should be up and running soon.

**Besen Park**: The first bridge was replaced at Ramile Street. The second one on Schimmel could also use replacing. We also need to meet with the engineer regarding the stabilization park side of the brook.

**Agenda-**

**Notice of Violation-**

**Chairman's Report-**

**General-**

**Land use/ Zoning-**

**Old Business-**

**New Business**- Zelkova was billed on South Drive. East Coast can plant two new Zelkova, \$2,500 to spade into the ground. Larger is better, and theyre giving us the guarantee of survival. M. Ivanicki made a motion to spend the \$2,500.00. Seconded by A. Les. All is favor.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 90:02 pm by D. Minervini, Seconded by C. Hittel