

TOWN OF CLINTON SHADE TREE COMMISSION MINUTES

August 19, 2021 at 7:30 PM via Zoom

Attendees:

John Kashwick, Chair

Ross Traphagen, Council Liaison

Dan Shea

Pat Daley

Whitney Wetherill (non-voting)

The meeting was called to order by John at 7:35 PM. All members introduced themselves to Whitney who is considering joining the Commission.

Dan moved that we adopt the minutes from the May 20, June 28, and July 15 meetings. The motion was seconded by Pat and passed unanimously.

Ross, Dan, and John met with the Mayor regarding the approval of the purchase order for the takedown list. The mayor approved the additional \$1000 for tree removals. This will enable the Commission to remove additional ash trees that are impacted by the emerald ash borer.

Ross along with Councilman Mike Humphrey are working on a senior fair and luncheon for September 12. The new group will be called the Platinum Club. Among other organizations, the Shade Tree Commission is being invited to set up a display at the fair to recruit new members and introduce residents to the work of the Commission. Some possibilities for a display include a sample spotted lanternfly trap, a board with invasive insects, or types of trees that are recommended for planting.

We received email correspondence from residents at 9 Busher and 11 Busher. 11 Busher is already on our takedown list. John left a message with the resident at 9 Busher but has not heard back.

We still need to obtain CEUs. The NJ Forestry Council has webinars the same night as Shade Tree Commission. The Commission is considering doing one of these sessions as part of our meeting and all earning the remaining credits at once. Whitney asked about the requirements to obtain the CEUs and she would be interested in attending. John also recommend that Whitney attend Core certification training with the NJ Shade Tree Federation to learn more about work on the Commission.

The takedown list is complete and the purchase order was approved. Dan reported that we are on the list for Rich's Tree Service for the work to be done. Ross reported that that tree in front of the Presbyterian church tat we discussed last month has been taken down by the church.

We pared down our list of tree plantings. Dan will be requesting a quote from Ercolano's for a plum, cherry, and maple tree. Ross will be reaching out to the Mayor to see if the purchase can be approved.

Pat and John checked out the Forest Stewardship Grant. Because of the reduced budget the Commission has this year, and the grant requiring matching funds, we decided to forego applying this year.

John emailed Nick at the Clinton House letting him know that his request to remove the two trees on south side of the front of the restaurant was approved provided he plant two new trees at locations approved by the Shade Tree Commission.

John submitted the story for the Town newsletter about different insect pests that impact our trees including the spotted lanternfly, emerald ash borer, gypsy moth, and Asian long-horned beetle.

The next meeting will be rescheduled for Monday, September 20 at 7:30 PM.

Motion to adjourn was made by Pat and seconded by Dan and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

John Kashwick