

TOWN OF CLINTON SHADE TREE COMMISSION MINUTES

Via Zoom

September 3, 2020

Attendees:

John Kashwick (Chair)

Ross Traphagen (Council Liaison)

Pat Daley

Dan Shea

Meeting was called to order by John Kashwick at 7:38 PM.

Motion to approve the minutes from July 16 meeting was made by Pat and seconded by Dan and approved by voice vote.

Ross reported that Shade Tree's budget for the year is \$4500. We have already expended \$500 for Arbor Day so we have \$4000 remaining for tree maintenance. The town overall has a \$175,000 shortfall this year because of Covid.

Ross showed up the plans and photos of the A&P redevelopment project. The Commission commented on some of the planting and agreed that more substantial trees should be planted along Route 173. The developer should also retain as many mature trees as possible in the buffer.

Ross mentioned that the NJ State Department of Agriculture might come to help treat for the spotted lantern fly if we can identify infestations. The Commission will divvy up the town to inspect. Pat will inspect Center Street and downtown. Cecilia will inspect DeMott Park. Ross will inspect Halstead. John will inspect Hunts Mill Park. Dan will inspect The Knolls. Inspections should be completed by September 17.

There are two reports of tree concerns: 17 Spruce Run, which is not town tree and 1 Hillside which is already on our take down list.

John submitted an article about using shredded leaves as mulch for the newsletter

We reviewed the takedown list and moved some work to next year to stay under budget. Dan will finalize and submit for purchase order.

The Commission review of Property Maintenance Ordinance. Members were concerned about neighbors using the ordinance to retaliate against other neighbors. Commission members want to make sure there is a warning process in place before fines are levied.

Next meeting will take place Thursday, September 17 at 7:30 PM via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John Kashwick

Acting Secretary