

**CRANBURY TOWNSHIP
SHADE TREE COMMISSION**

MINUTES

June 1, 2023

The regular meeting of the Cranbury Township Shade Tree Commission was held in Town Hall, 23A North Main Street, Cranbury, New Jersey on June 1, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Ms. Kathy Easton, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., and Scout Beyer acted as the Recording Secretary.

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

Pursuant to the Sunshine Law, adequate notice in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6) was provided on January 6, 2023, of this meeting's date, time and place, and the agenda was communicated to the news media, posted on the Township bulletin board, mailed to those requesting personal notice, and filed with the Municipal Clerk.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Kathy Easton, Jackie Johnson and Bonnie Larson were present. Jessica Irons was excused and Marilee Nissen was absent.

NONMEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

N/A

MINUTES

The Minutes of the April 6, 2023 meeting were reviewed. On a motion by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Easton, the April 6, 2023 Minutes were approved by a voice vote of all members present at the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Community Forestry Management Plan (CFMP)

Volunteer Work Hours – For the April 6, 2023 to June 1, 2023 time period, STC members reported the following volunteer hours (including 1.0 hours for today's meeting): Ms. Easton – 23.0 hours (no CEU's); Ms. Johnson – 8.0 hours (2.0 CEU's, 6.0 Regular) and Ms. Larson – 7.0 hours (no CEU's).

Status of "Do Not Plant" and Recommended Tree Exhibit Lists

Ms. Easton reported that the "Do Not Plant" list has no new updates. The Commission anticipates scheduling a Work Session meeting in July to address new threats such as climate change, storm flooding and new diseases.

Spotted Lanternfly Management in Village Park

Ms. Easton reported that she will follow-up with the consultant for the final portion of treatment at Village Park.

Tree Inventory

Ms. Easton reported that bids have been distributed to Bartlett Tree Experts, SaveATree and The Davey Resource Group. She has requested additional documentation from the Township Engineer to provide to the potential bidders. She additionally reported on the grant scheduled to be released this summer and Ms. Irons' work towards it.

Tree Protection Ordinance

Ms. Easton reported on the sample ordinance that was circulated by the State. She asked for comments from Shade Tree Commission members to the tree protection ordinance so that they can present it to the Township Committee when the State is ready to act.

Arbor Day

Ms. Easton reported on the successful turnout for Arbor Day 2023. It was hosted inside the library due to rain, however, that did not stop the public or the second-grade students from participating and having a great event.

Cranbury School 125th Event

There was no report.

NEW BUSINESS

Tree Maintenance

Ms. Easton reported on several trees that appear need to be cut down. She asked Ms. Johnson to join her in inspecting the trees. She reported that she would like input from the Parks Commission and Environmental Commission for forest reclamation at Village Park after the ailanthus tree removal.

Tree Inquiries

Public inquiries regarding trees should contact Ms. Easton. Several trees in town require assessment for removal or hazard pruning. Ms. Easton has been in contact with the owners. Ms. Easton additionally reported on the need for a certified arborist for future tree inquiries and maintenance.

Member Reports

Ms. Johnson reported on two CEU classes she attended, "Balancing Interests in Forest Management" and "Trees, Roots & Trails". Ms. Easton reported that she has been directing the public to the Environmental Commission's webpage for spotted lantern fly management.

Summary of "To Do" Action Items

All

Provide comments to the Tree Protection Ordinance

Attend Work Session meeting

Ms. Easton

Meet with Ms. Johnson and survey tree pruning

Attend Cranbury Day with Ms. Nissen

Ms. Irons

Work on the tree inventory grant

Ms. Johnson

Meet with Ms. Easton and survey tree pruning

Ms. Larson

Attend Township Committee meetings

Ms. Nissen

Attend Cranbury Day with Ms. Easton

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

There being no further business, motion duly made by Ms. Easton, seconded by Ms. Larson and unanimously carried, the meeting was thereupon adjourned at 10:39 a.m.

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I am the duly appointed Recording Secretary of the Township of Cranbury Shade Tree Commission, and that this document, consisting of three (3) pages, constitutes a true and correct copy of the minutes of the monthly meeting held on June 1, 2023.

Scout Beyer
Scout Beyer
Board Secretary