

City of Plainfield
Shade Tree Commission
Minutes of Regular Meeting of July 26, 2017 - 7:30 pm
Plainfield City Hall, 515 Watchung Ave., Second Floor Conference Room
Plainfield, New Jersey 07060

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Peter Simone, Mary Burgwinkle, Jan Massey, Oscar Riba, Vanessa Doman, Barbara Spellmeyer and Kelley Boero.
2. **Open Public Meeting Act:** Publication was handled by the Planning Division.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** The Commissioners reviewed the minutes of the June 28, 2017 meeting and they were approved with edits.
4. **Shade Tree Commission Items:**

STC Budget

The budget for this year is \$30,600.00. STC has spent \$2,010.96 so far. Nothing has changed since the last meeting.

Greening of Union County

Mr. Simone reported that L. Barbato and Sons will do tree replacement for the trees lost in the fall planting. We need to make a detailed list of the trees that dies in the GUC fall planting. He asked commissioners to go out with him to help compile the list.

He reminded the Commissioners that we need to select 26 tree sites each for Wards 1, 2 and 3. Mr. Simone asked commissioners to do their wards.

2017 CSIP Grant plantings and maintenance

The state inspector of the trees looked at the correction of the mulch done by Queen City Pride activist group, and they did the work. The inspector approved the change.

STC/Planning Board site applications

712 W. 3rd Street-Ms. Burgwinkle reported that this site came to Zoning Board at the July 14th meeting. A vacant lot is being changed to a parking lot. There is an end of life maple in the ROW, and a healthy maple as well. There are a number of curb cuts and signs. The applicant will plant appropriate (small) trees.

Plainfield Roadway Improvement Projects

2016 tree replacement:

Mr. Simone has told the engineer about the trees from the 2016 planting that have died. He asked for help in identifying them by address

2017 tree removal and selection: Hillside Ave., W. 3rd St., Central Ave., Stelle Ave.

Ms. Burgwinkle contacted the Mayor, City Administrator and Public Works Director to ask for information on which streets will undergo curb replacement and for watering of the new trees in Ward Four. John Louise agreed to water the trees. The Mayor responded to Ms. Burgwinkle that curbing will not be replaced so that more streets can be improved. Mr. Riba may complain about this decision, Mr. Simone said that Union County has stopped replacing curbs during Road Improvement. That means that fewer trees will be taken down and replaced.

Public Works – Tree / Stump Removal

Mr. Riba asked about the protocol for stump removal by Public Works. Discussion ensued. He will provide a list of several stumps to John Louise that need to be removed. STC may devote our next season (2018) to tree maintenance, not planting additional trees (other than requests from citizens and Arbor Day).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm. The next meeting will be held on August 23, 2017 at 7:30 pm.