

# Bound Brook Shade Tree Commission Meeting

## Thursday January 18th, 2024

### **Approved Meeting Minutes**

Attendees – Nancy Lepionka, Diana Romero Kristi Colbert, Marsha Longshore. Dan Whelan and Dale Leubner, Director, Department of Public Works, and Hector Herrera, Borough Administrator

Meeting Started: 6:08pm

December Corrections- Accepted as corrected

Discussion with Hector Herrera and Dale Leubner on codes, municipal communication back to residents, and opportunities for STC inspection alignment regarding Shade Tree inspections involving sidewalks.

New Stormwater Ordinance adopted as required by the state - if a tree is taken down on public or private property, a new tree must be planted. If not, a monetary contribution is required if not replacing the tree. Residents will need a permit to take down existing trees on private property.

Downtown Business District

- Discussion of use of Flexi-pave/porous pavement - Grant \$\$ does not pay for these products per Dale Leubner.
- County Engineer, Matt Loper's approval required to add/expand tree pits on Main St

Discussed larger trees buckling sidewalks - alternatives to taking down healthy/large canopy trees.

Tree work on Union Ave (Rte 28) would need state approval. Per Dale, make sure any recommendations are long lasting due to time required for state approval. STC will create a work list for Union Ave to provide DPW to submit to the state for 2025 season (planting, stump removal, dead tree removal).

Mountain Ave tree planting, contact County Engineer, Matt Loper for approval

2023 Road Projects - none are completed some of 2022 road work is completed.

- W 2nd St from Church to Vosseller ok to plant/ W 2nd to Lamonte - South part of Lamonte ok to plant

Dale will send over completed 2023 inspection requests

Per Hector, ~26.5% of Prior Year Budget available to spend until 2024 budget is passed (April timeframe)

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### Old Business

- STC Newsletter updated with English/Spanish Copy pending council approval for print cost then will be mailed out with Resident Information brochure.

-Arbor pro training

- Looking to set up with Michael Talag for online training session to review new features including allowing limited access to other stakeholders like DPW

- Kristi to reach out to Michael for time slots available for a BB STC training

-Tree Diaper purchase – (8) 24” sq mats arrived for use with spring planting

Arbor Day date - 4/20/24

### Action Items -

- Select a tree planting location
  - o Ask to come with proposed sites to February meeting
    - Possible planting at Lafayette school? Tree recently came down there
    - Planting a tree at Community Garden also proposed.

Dan volunteered to source the tree and select the appropriate tree and nursery

Seedlings for Arbor Day- Community Tree Recovery Program request for seedlings submit by 1/26 - ask for 150 (they provide in groups of 25)

Arbor Day event - Suggestion to get pots and soil to allow seedling recipients to receive hands on instructions on how to plant seedlings to educate and give the trees a better chance of survival.

Spring planting inventory - shoot for 10-15 for every area to bring to next meeting

- Use arbor pro vacancies to get initial options - note if there are wires or any other considerations

Meeting Ended 8:32pm