

**CRANBURY TOWNSHIP  
SHADE TREE COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

**April 6, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Cranbury Township Shade Tree Commission was held in Town Hall, 23A North Main Street, Cranbury, New Jersey on April, 2023 at 10:02 a.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

With a quorum present, Ms. Kathy Easton, called the meeting to order at 10:02 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, Bonnie Larson and Lee Nissen were present. Jessica Irons was excused.

**NONMEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Dr. Barbara Rogers, Township Committee Liaison

**MINUTES**

The Minutes of the February 2, 2023 meeting were reviewed. On a motion by Ms. Easton and seconded by Ms. Johnson, the February 2, 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 February 2, 2023 to April 6, 2023 time period, STC members reported the following volunteer hours (including 1.0 hours for today's meeting): Ms. Easton – 25.0 hours (no CEU's); Ms. Johnson – 6.0 hours (1.5 CEU's, 4.5 Regular); Ms. Larson – 4.5 hours (no CEU's) and Ms. Nissen – 2.5 hours (no CEU's).

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

Ms. Easton reported that the "Do Not Plant" list was reviewed at the Commission's Work Session meeting. Pin Oaks were previously removed from the list and the updated list is on the Township website.

#### Spotted Lanternfly Management in Village Park

Ms. Easton reported that approximately 150 ailanthus trees were cut down and stump treated at Village Park. There are still several trees left to be treated. Ms. Easton intends to attend the next Parks Commission and Environmental Commission meetings to discuss replanting at Village Park.

#### Tree Inventory

Ms. Easton and Ms. Johnson plan to meet to finalize the tree inventory request for bids.

#### Tree Protection Ordinance

Ms. Easton reported that at the Work Session meeting, Ms. Johnson and Ms. Irons provided ordinances from other municipalities as examples to update the Township's Tree Protection Ordinance.

#### Tree City USA, Annual Accomplishments Report

Ms. Easton reported on the completion of the reports. The Township was awarded a Tree City USA Town for the 35<sup>th</sup> year. She and Ms. Johnson plan to attend the NJ Tree Federation Conference in October.

#### 2023 In-House Workshop(s)

The Commission is still researching ideas for 2023 In-House Workshops.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Arbor Day

Arbor Day is Friday, April 28, 2023. A location is selected to plant the native tree. Ms. Easton also reported on a separate tree planting event for a Girl Scout Daisy Troop at Village Park.

#### Cranbury School 125<sup>th</sup> Event

Ms. Easton reported the date for the celebration is Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>.

#### Tree Maintenance

Ms. Easton reported that she met with the Department of Public Works to discuss 2023 tree maintenance. She provided a summary memo to the members. Ms. Nissen reported that she will contact vendors for tree replacement and root guards.

#### 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.

#### Member Reports

Ms. Johnson reported on the CEU class she attended, "Reimagining Forestry and Changing the World". Ms. Easton reported that Reinhardt Preserve looks well maintained.

#### Summary of "To Do" Action Items

All

Participate in Arbor Day 2023

Take photos of problematic trees and send to Ms. Easton and Jerry Thorne of the Department of Public Works

Ms. Easton

Tree Inventory Bids

Tree Protection Ordinance  
Ms. Johnson  
Exhibit Lists and "Do Not Plant" List  
Tree Protection Ordinance  
Ms. Larson  
Attend Township Committee meetings  
Ms. Nissen  
Tree Protection Ordinance  
Contact vendors regarding root guards

#### **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 10:50 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 April 6, 2023.

Scout Beyer  
Scout Beyer  
Board Secretary