

Shade Tree Commission

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 2, 2023 1:00 P.M.

Hybrid – In-Person and Zoom

The Lemoyne Borough Shade Tree Commission meeting of March 2, 2023 was called to order at 1:00 P.M.

Present in-person were Commission Chair John Leverentz and Commission Members Ed Dix and Marsha Everton.

Lemoyne Borough Maintenance Superintendent Cliff Karlsen participated by Zoom.

Lemoyne Borough MS4 Coordinator Kasha Griva participated by Zoom for a portion of the meeting.

No public was present.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Leverentz noted an error in the February 2, 2023 draft minutes and recommended an appropriate revision.

Mr. Leverentz made a motion to approve the amended draft of the minutes of the February 2, 2023 meeting. Mr. Dix seconded the motion. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

New Business

1. Mr. Leverentz introduced the topic of the April 29, 2023 Arbor Day Festival being planned by the Lemoyne Borough Stormwater Department and the collaboration with the Shade Tree Commission.
 - Ms. Griva reviewed additional commitments to participation in the Festival and overall logistics.
 - Ms. Griva confirmed by email in advance of the meeting that street banners cannot be approved for the event due to approval timelines with PennDOT.
 - Mr. Leverentz confirmed the generous participation by Highland Gardens with a gift certificate for native plantings.

Ms. Griva departed at the end of this discussion at 1:27 P.M.

2. Mr. Leverentz introduced the topic of the Application for Tree Removal submitted by Carlea Lenker for four trees located in the area of 941-965 Bosler Avenue.
 - Each Commission member offered comments based on their individual visits to the property location prior to the meeting.
 - The Commission agreed that the trees appear to be healthy, inconsistent with the “not healthy” description on the Application.
 - The Commission also observed that the Application description of tree roots in the sewer lines may not be accurate since sewer laterals are generally located below tree root levels.
 - The Commission agreed that the Application is not approved at this time and that verification of sewer damage by the tree roots will be requested from Carlea Lenker.
3. Mr. Leverentz introduced the topic of the Open Tree Map that documents the current tree inventory for Lemoyne Borough ([link here](#)).
 - Mr. Leverentz and Mr. Dix reviewed their attempts to make targeted updates to the map and confirmed that the actual trees do not match well to the map. Updates cannot be done due to the mismatch.
 - The Commission agreed that the general findings of the map are useful and that no further work will be done by the STC to update this map and database.
 - The Commission reviewed the mapping technology and tree equity score published by American Forests ([link here](#)) and the tree canopy data provided by Earth Define ([link here](#)) as a potential additional resource.
4. Mr. Leverentz introduced the topic of the Penn State Extension webinar “Finding Solutions to Tree-Sidewalk Conflicts”.
 - Mr. Leverentz and Mr. Dix attended the webinar.
 - The focus of the webinar was on large trees in the sidewalk and how to locate the sidewalk around the trees.
 - No follow up is currently recommended on the webinar content.
5. The Commission agreed to focus on development of the STC Master Plan at the April STC meeting.

Adjournment

Following a motion by Mr. Dix and seconded by Ms. Everton, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 2:25 P.M.

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting

April 6 2023, 1:00 P.M. at Lemoyne Borough Office Building with video conference participation option.

Agenda to include:

- Updates on Lemoyne Borough Arbor Day Festival collaboration.
- STC Master Plan.
- Options for development of enhanced Lemoyne Borough Memorial Tree Plantings program (pending completion of Lemoyne Borough master plan for borough parks).