



**Closter Shade Tree Commission
Meeting Minutes**

Monday, March 14, 2022

8:00 p.m.

Held remotely via Zoom

I. Call to Order

- II. Present:** Nils Abate, Chair; Todd Bradbury; Scott Devlin, Council Liaison; George Futterknecht; Miriam Lockhart, Secretary/Environmental Commission Liaison; George Paschalis; Daniel Serata; Tsun Tam
Absent: Anthony Lupardi, Sr.

III. Approval of Minutes

The February 14, 2022 Minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

IV. Public Comment - none

V. Correspondence - none

VI. Old Business

- a) NJUCF Tree Inventory Grant
Chairman Abate asked three vendors to review the RFP. Vendors to communicate with Borough Administrator.
- b) 2022 budget update
- c) 317 Haring Street - Homeowner appealed tree fine at M&C meeting. Tree removal vendor will be penalized.
- d) Canopy loss in Closter
 - i. Tree fines/appeals. Borough Attorney researching moving tree appeals from Mayor and Council to Municipal Court.
 - ii. Tree meeting on 2.25.22 to review and improve tree permitting and enforcement. Attended by Building Dept., Police Dept., Borough Administrator, members of Shade Tree and Environmental Commissions. CPD will stop tree removals on weekends if permit is not posted. \$100,000 in tree fines still pending. Mitigation will be discussed at March tree meeting.

VII. New Business

a) 2022 Arbor Day Poster Contest - Deadline for submission is April 8th.

b) Arbor Day school tree plantings

Chairman Abate will set up Arbor Day festivities with principals at Tenakill and Hillside Schools. RFQ submitted for 2 trees: a red maple and a white oak to plant at the schools. Mr. Bradbury requested that Chairman Abate ask the principals whether the schools can be responsible for watering the trees.

c) 12 Haring Street - unauthorized street tree removal

The homeowner will not be fined because the tree was hollow and therefore needed to be removed. Mr. Paschalis will draft a letter to the homeowner informing that removal of street trees must go through proper channels in the future.

d) Mayor's newsletter submission for next month

VIII. Inspection requests

677 CDR. Maple tree planted. Approval for C.O. given.

IX. Liaison Reports

a) Governing Body—Councilman Devlin reported on an upcoming Borough meeting to discuss the enforcement of tree preservation ordinances.

b) Environmental Commission—Ms. Lockhart informed the Commission about “Closter Clean-Up Day” April 2.

X. Meeting Adjournment 9:09 pm