



# SHADE TREE COMMISSION

## Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 8, 2023

8:00 p.m.

*[held remotely via Zoom]*

**1. Call to Order—Pledge of Allegiance**

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 pm

**2. Roll Call**

*Commission Members present:*

Nils Abate, Chairman

Todd Bradbury

Miriam Lockhart

Dan Serata

Tsun Tam (arrived 8:10 p.m.)

**3. Approval of Minutes**

The April 10, 2023 minutes were approved.

**4. Open Meeting to Public Comment**

No members of the public were present.

**5. Correspondence**

Chairman Abate reviewed incoming correspondence with members.

**6. Old Business**

a) 2023 Arbor Day Poster Contest/Planting Ceremonies

Chairman Abate reported on the day's activities.

b) CEU training for Commissioners—June 12

Chairman Abate noted the training is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on June 12 at the Library, pending clarification of insurance requirements and the publication of a meeting notice.

c) Completing Tree Inventory/Dead Tree Removals

A discussion was held regarding the completion of the outstanding trees that remain to be inventoried and the trees recently planted.

d) 186 Harrington Avenue

Chairman Abate noted the trees are planted at this location.

e) Tree Removal Tracking/Work Orders

Mr. Bradbury recapped the need for the Commission to track tree removals given that Borough Hall staff can no longer provide this service. Mr. Bradbury reviewed potential avenues available to the Commission, including the use of the Tree Plotter software and other shareable software available to the Borough. Chairman Abate will engage Kevin Whitney on the latter option.

**7. New Business**

a) Trees for Schools grant program

Ms. Lockhart reviewed information provided by Mr. Paschalis regarding \$2.5 million in grant funding available to local Schools. The program is sponsored by DEP, Sustainable Jersey, and the College of New Jersey and offers funding (no match required) to plant trees on school district or municipal land that students frequent (including along streets). An informational webinar will be held on May 18, 2023. The Commission agreed this application would be worthwhile to support.

b) Mayor's Newsletter

Members discussed focusing the Commission's next submission on recruitment.

**8. Reports**

a) Shade Tree Budget Report—*received*

b) Shade Tree Trust Fund Report—*not received*

c) Governing Body—*Councilman Devlin absent*

d) Environmental Commission— *Councilman Devlin absent*

**9. Inspections/Plan Reviews**

Members discussed various reviews.

**10. Meeting Adjournment (9:00 p.m.)**