

February 13, 2020  
Middlesex Municipal Building

The meeting of the Middlesex Shade Tree Commission was held on the above date at the Middlesex Borough Hall and called to order by Vice Chairman Dan Gitler.

“This meeting is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law in that the requirements of the law have been met by the Special Meeting Notice which has been forwarded to the Courier News and posted in the Municipal Building on December 5, 2019.

Members:                    Jason Bond (absent)  
                                  Dan Gitler  
                                  Sean Johnson  
                                  Jim Gorman (absent)  
                                  Jeff Killian  
                                  Doug Rex, Representative (absent)

Secretary                    Linda Chismar

Vice Chairman Gitler opened the meeting to the public.

Byron & Marina Marent, 202 Farragut Ave. attended the meeting and asked if the borough could look at this tree. They are concerned as they feel it is changing colors and is close to the pole. The DPW felt that it might be a hazard and recommended to bring to the Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Gitler mentioned that they would go out to look at the tree, probably on the weekend to make a determination, if it required removal, they would look for another location on their property right of way to replace the tree.

Seeing that there was no further public participation, Vice Chairman Gitler closed the public portion of the meeting.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the January 9, 2020 Shade Tree Meeting Minutes seconded by Mr. Killian and carried by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

Mr. Johnson moved to table the January, 2020 Finance Report seconded by Mr. Gitler and carried by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

#### Communications

1. 202 Farragut Ave. – Discussed above.
2. 101 Fairfield Ave. – Mr. Johnson indicated that nothing was needed as the 2 London Planes seemed to be healthy.
3. 2 Benart Place – Mr. Gitler and Mr. Killian will look at the tree in front of this property that resident feels needs to be trimmed.

#### 4. Work Agenda

1. 437 Edgeworth Street – Mr. Gitler would like to follow up and look at this tree once it is leafed out.
2. 405 Edgeworth Street – Mr. Johnson viewed this tree and found cavities in it and the center seems to be dying. The Commission recommended removal.

#### Unfinished Business

1. 2020 Shade Tree Budget – Commission discussed their budget and secretary will make an itemized sheet of amounts spent in the last few years to submit to the CFO. This is justification of the amount of funding (\$40,000) that has been requested for their 2020 budget.

#### New Business

1. Preparation of the Tree Management Plan for 2019 – Commission completed the Tree Management Plan for the year 2019 and the Secretary will submit it tomorrow.
2. Salem Oak Tree Seedlings – The Commission secretary indicated that each municipality in NJ will be receiving salem oak seedlings from the DEP to coincide with the DEP's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 22, which also is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of America's first Earth Day.
3. Mr. Johnson requested that the DPW check the tree at 399 East Greenlawn Avenue that was removed by the homeowner and measure to see if this tree was a shade tree and should be addressed.
4. Mr. Gitler discussed that he had received the Arbor Day Society Newsletter which discussed consideration on the locations where trees are planted and that consideration should be given to the likelihood of failure and the likelihood of impact.

Mr. Gitler moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Killian and carried by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

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Linda Chismar, Secretary

NEXT SHADE TREE COMMISSION MEETING  
THURSDAY,  
MARCH 12, 2020 – 7:30 PM  
MIDDLESEX BOROUGH HALL

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please call Linda at 732-356-7400, Ext. 238

