

CHATHAM BOROUGH SHADE TREE COMMISSION

November 19, 2019

7:30 p.m.

In Chairman Truppo's absence, Vice Chairman Kristy Chmura called this Regular Meeting of the Chatham Borough Shade Tree Commission to order at 7:30 p.m., Room 301, upper level, Chatham Borough Hall. The Open Public Meetings Act was read aloud. The Mission Statement of the Shade Tree Commission was read aloud.

Name	Present	Absent
Colleen Truppo, Chrmn.		X
Kristy Chmura, Vice Chrmn.	X	
Ken Chmura	X	
Fran Drew	X	
John Tortorella	X	
Patrick Florentino		X
Beverly Klepper	X	
Dean Wilson	X	
Council Member James Collander		X

Public Comment

There was none.

Motion to Adopt Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the October 22, 2019 Shade Tree Meeting were approved as amended.

Discussion Items

CEU Update

Vice Chrmn. Chmura noted that Mr. Tortorella, Mr. Florentino, Mr. Chmura, and herself have all obtained some additional credits. She estimated that the Commission had until next month to reach the needed number of CEU credits. A total of eight CEUs are needed to obtain the Tree City certification. Ms. Chmura will notify Chrmn. Truppo that Mr. Wilson would like to be on the Penn State list for continuing education courses.

Lafayette Avenue tree removals

Mrs. Drew reported that she went before the Chatham Township Mayor and Township Committee Members and discussed the trees that had been removed on Lafayette Avenue. She distributed photos that she had shown at the October STC meeting. Mrs. Drew distributed a memo she sent today to each NJ State Senator urging them to stop JCP & L from butchering the local tree canopy. Mrs. Drew had attached the photos of the trees being taken down on Lafayette Avenue this past August and September.

Mrs. Drew wasn't sure of what response she will be receiving from the State Senators, however she will reach out to the State Assemblymen when she obtains their addresses.

Mrs. Drew noted that someone had advised her not to bother contacting the BPU about these tree removals. She was advised that the legislators should be notified of what is going on with these removal situations. Mrs. Drew described the tree-trimming jobs that JCP & L had recently done to the trees on Lafayette Avenue.

Related to this issue, Vice Chrmn. Chmura briefly discussed an email she had received announcing a workshop on The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiatives Multi-State Program. She will forward it on to Chairman Truppo.

Update on Tree Banners for Summit

Mrs. Drew reported that she had spoken with a lady from the Summit Shade Tree Commission about tree banners. She had explained to her the variety of tree banners that Chatham Borough has displayed and their prices. Mrs. Drew hasn't heard from the lady, whether she is interested in the ordering of these banners. She'll reach out again to her. If Summit isn't interested in ordering these banners, Mrs. Drew felt that the Chatham STC could order two or three new banners.

Miscellaneous

Mr. Chmura discussed a reply he had received from a letter he had written to the BPU. He noted that Governor Murphy has approved a program for windfarms. The Governor believes that New Jersey will be using 50% green energy by the 2030.

Mrs. Drew reported that the Chairman of the Borough's Underground Wiring Committee, Council Member Kobylarz, had recently sent a letter asking Governor Murphy if Chatham Borough could be a pilot town in representing underground wiring. Council Member Kobylarz had reported that the Governor answered yes.

Mr. Tortorella offered to investigate which legislators appoints the BPU representatives.

At 7:50 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

The next Chatham Borough Shade Tree Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 17, 2019, 7:30 p.m., Room 301, upper level, Chatham Borough Hall.

Respectfully submitted:

Liz Holler
Recording Secretary