

**Shade Tree Commission
Minutes**

Thursday, March 4, 1 pm
Village Hall

Next Meetings: Thursday, April 1, 1 p.m.
Thursday, May 6, 1 p.m.

Present: Marcia Mandala
Beth Schluep
Bob Henry
Sheri Petrosek
Ben Gregory

We welcomed new member Debra Sanderson

February Meeting Minutes approved.

Old Business

1. Service Department

- a. Placed order for 24 trees
- b. Young tree training/pruning done
- c. 96 mature trees pruned
- d. Final 2020 report will be submitted.
- e. Need to address addition of trees on Outlook.

2. Tree canopy:

a. Notes from Paul:

- One big takeaway from these household visits is that our current VSL Canopy Cover (40%) is made up of too many trees that have been untended. By no means is this observation meant to be critical of individuals and their private property management, but it is an expression of concern for the future Canopy Cover of the Village.
- Letters for Spring 2021 return visits to the same households for soil observations – Surface vegetation, surface compaction, soil probe penetration and soil development – along with Perc Tests, and, for five selected sites, soil samples to be sent to Univ of Mass. For analysis.
- Work continues with several agencies regarding the Riparian recommendations to Village Council for adoption later this spring.

b. Paul is still finetuning his report.

3. Memorial Book – Marcia

- a. Will review next meeting.
4. 2020 Tree Village Inventory Zone 3
 - a. Tree Tracker: Inventory will be entered into Tree Tracker early April.
 5. STC web page blog - Bob
 - a. Bob updated links and style.
 - b. URL link is: <https://slaketreec.blogspot.com>
 - c. Will place link to Blog under More Information on SL Tree Website.
 - d. Suggestions for blog links to be sent to Bob.
 - e. Images can also be added – perhaps tree of the month on the website.
 6. Education -
 - a. Resident Newsletter: village probably do one this year. We can add article.
 - b. Water bill will be in an envelope and will be 8x11. Most likely in June. Can include our information in the envelope.
 - c. Silver Lake Facebook page. Bob to ask Kim if we can post to this.
 - d. Pay the Shade Forward article submitted by Marcia was reviewed. Marcia will clarify mature trees text. Will submit to Falls News Press, Neighbors of Silver Lake and North Hampton, on Facebook page, to Resident Newsletter and on our web page.
 - e. How to Distribute Tree Canopy Project outcomes to residents:
 - i. Present to Council at April meeting, 3rd Monday.
 - ii. Beth to contact Paul re: a 5 minute presentation/summary
 - f. Electronic Village sign: “Less Mulch, More Flare”, “Pay the Shade Forward” “Arbor Day” “Visit STC web page”. Beth to contact Mayor to determine how often we can post.
 - g. Develop handout for “How to Mulch” and “Pay the Shade Forward” with tree recommendations. Sheri to draft.
 7. Members to review Shade Tree Commission timeline and discuss next meeting.
 8. Goals for 2021: Education residents on Proper Mulching and Pay Shade Forward.
 9. Promotional Materials – we will not do.

New Business

1. Ben to determine if Tree Management is a function of a Service Department job description.
2. Need to educate residents on Spotted Lantern Fly.