

**DOYLESTOWN BOROUGH
SHADE TREE COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
December 12, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Doylestown Borough Shade Tree Commission was held at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at Doylestown Borough Hall, 10 Doyle Street. Members of the Commission in attendance were: Jean Weston and Chris May. Also in attendance were Borough Arborist, Bob McMullin, Building & Zoning Director, Karyn Hyland, Park and Recreation Director, Dave Burger, along with applicants, Carolyn Penglase, Bart Creedon, and Mike Frank for Public comment.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

MINUTES APPROVAL: No Quorum to approve.

SUBDIVISION/LAND DEVELOPMENT: None

PERMIT APPLICATIONS:

540 Maple Avenue

Commission approved the issuance of a permit for removal of 1 Norway Maple.

Members in Attendance Recommended Approval

544 Maple Avenue

Commission approved the issuance of a permit for removal of 1 Evergreen.

Members in Attendance Recommended Approval

137 Lafayette Street

Commission approved the issuance of a permit for removal of 2 Dogwoods. Comment noted that Tulip Poplar which was struck by lightning is healthy.

Members in Attendance Recommended Approval

131 E. Oakland Avenue

Commission approved the issuance of a permit for removal of 1 Holly.

Members in Attendance Recommended Approval

348 Maple Avenue

Commission approved the issuance of a permit for removal of 1 Cedar. Recommended to plant new trees in front of house.

Members in Attendance Recommended Approval

334 Maple Avenue

Commission approved the issuance of a permit for removal of 1 Curley Willow.

Members in Attendance Recommended Approval

5 Pearl Drive

Commission approved the issuance of a permit for removal of 1 Sweet Gum. Recommended to plant new trees closer to house.

Members in Attendance Recommended Approval

NEW/OLD BUSINESS:

Burger spoke regarding Mr. Frank's property located at 56 S. Franklin Street. The large Zelkova Street Tree along the corner of his property is causing his sidewalk to be a trip hazard. The members present and Borough Arborist spoke briefly about a permanent resolution, rather than a short-term fix. They all agree the tree should be removed and they recommended planting one or two trees along the Mary Street side of the property. Burger advised he would need to coordinate the removal with PECO since wires are running through the branches.

There was a brief discussion regarding the Maplewood Street tree-planting project. Jean Weston shared a copy of the draft letter that will be personally dropped off to property owners. Hyland noted that the Borough staff could reformat and add a QR code to the letter before distribution.

Burger spoke about Arbor Day and ordering the tree species that will be given away. After discussion, it was recommended to use black gum, dogwood, red bud, or American hornbeam. This will be discussed at the next meeting with the members for a final decision.

May expressed that the Doylestown Cemetery is interested in forming a partnership with Doylestown Borough for the removal and planting of trees. Hyland advised although we have acknowledged the Cemetery as a property that the Borough might work with on replanting lost trees, the removal and replacement of existing healthy trees on private property is not consistent with the Borough's goals and priorities.

ARBORIST REPORT: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stacy Murray

The next Shade Tree Meeting is on January 9, 2024