

Bound Brook Shade Tree Commission Meeting  
Thursday, March 17, 2016  
Minutes

Present: Nancy Campbell, Xue Du, Nancy Lepionka, Marsha Longshore, Mary Patten February

February Minutes: Approved

**Chair's Report:**

- Received OK from state for 100 trees from NJ Tree Recovery Campaign.
- Ordered and received pencils - neon colors- personalized with 'Bound Brook - Tree City USA
- Nick Polanin, RCE Somerset Agriculture Agent, said he 'might' do pruning talk. Mary to follow up to get confirmation.
- Reviewed open inspection requests and did visual inspection to see if completed. Nancy Lepionka responded. Work is in progress.
- CSIP - attended March 8 council meeting where presented information about CSIP grant. Council will decide if they are willing to put up the money. Expect answer at next council meeting. Mary talked to State Forestry Service for clarification on aspects of the application. 10 percent of the grant is held back for two years to hold the tree vendors accountable.
- Xue and Mary pruned TD Charitable Foundation grant trees on Tea Street
- Letter to Board of Ed re Community School and planning board exemption - trees - no response yet
- Article in Bound Brook Chronicle on Winter King Hawthorne. Next article will be Prairifire Crabapple. These are provided as part of the Shade Tree Commission's Community Outreach initiative.
- Sent tree type and address mappings for 2015 plantings to Nancy Campbell to update inventory.
- Nancy Campbell and Mary met with 3 PSE&G reps, mayor and Vince Orofino re tree pruning or removal. PSE&G identified 7 Non mature trees that they wanted to prune or remove. New state power line clearance laws are in effect as of January 2016. They can cut 10 feet above and 10 feet below wires and 8 ft on either side of power line. PSE&G put hang tags on doors to inform residents that trees were being pruned. Continuing Education: Common tree identifiers- Mary shared information about tree identification . Most trees are alternate leaves Only 4 common trees have opposite branching. Maple Ash and Dogwood and Horse Chestnut.

**Inspection Requests**

2016 requests: 4 requests; 0 completed; 0 no action; 2 not inspected; 0 duplicates; 2 at DPW.

2015 requests: 138 requests; 68 completed; 16 no action; 9 not inspected; 17 duplicates; 28 at DPW

2014 requests: 168 requests; 121 completed; 18 no action; 0 not inspected; 25 duplicates; 4 at DPW

2013 requests: 154 requests; 97 completed, 16 no action required, 0 not inspected, 32 duplicates, 9 at DPW.

2012 Inspection Requests: 177 requests; 132 completed, 12 no action required, 1 not inspected, 28 duplicates, 4 at DPW

- Old Business:**
- Tree Inventory – updated with 2015 plantings?
  - Space Shuttle tree – Appears okay. Need to continue to monitor.

**New Business: Arbor Day celebration - schools; Chronicle article - April 17, 2016** Event at old field house in Codrington Park to include the following:

- Distribution of tree seedlings from NJ Tree Recovery Campaign
- Mayor's Proclamation (Mary)
- Tree planting and demonstration.
  - Will purchase larger tree to plant instead of seedling.
  - Tree planting site must be approved by Recreation Commissioner.
- Speaker on Pruning – Nicolas Polanin, County Agriculture Agent
- Announcement inviting residents to submit photos of their planted seedlings by April 17, 2017 for poster display next Arbor Day. Residents can be in the photos if they wish.
- Publicity: Bound Brook Chronicle, through schools and other publicity outlets. Mary to write news release. Nancy L will check with schools to determine how they publicize events to parents. Fliers in English and Spanish also to be distributed via business around Bound Brook, (Xue, Nancy L, Marsha )
- Refreshments: Coffee, cookies, or donuts.
- Chairs in the building and a table.
- Education table. Microphone system available

Continuing Education: Mary shared information about tree identification . Most trees are alternate leaves Four common trees have opposite branching. Maple Ash and Dogwood and HorsechestnutThe chart includes info about leaves, bark and branches as well as other distinguishin characteristics

**Adjournment:** 7:30