

MEETING AGENDA

Location:	Borough Hall, Council Chambers
Date:	May 20, 2025
Time:	7:00 PM

AGENDA DETAILS

I. INTRODUCTIONS

- a. Approve Apr Minutes

II. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Seminars/Webinars?
- b. Trees on Catherine St, Brownstones at Red Bank - The HOA president reported that 2 trees in front of the townhouses died. Per Boris' inspection: he two trees at #29 and #31 aren't quite dead yet, but not looking hopeful. Recommendation: Add to removals list and for future planting. A third one, at #27, is also starting to decline. Recommendation: Keep an eye on it and if it continues to decline add to the removals list and list for future planting. They're all Hop-Hornbeams, planted by the developer in 2019 when the project was completed. They didn't look good even right after the planting. Remedios responded.
- c. Tree at 46 Chestnut St - This tree is in our removals list. The resident requested if they can transplant the tree to their backyard and have a replacement tree planted. Remedios responded that STC is OK with that. Added the location to the list for future planting
- d. 22 Worthley St - Request for the Borough to plant a tree in the Borough ROW. Ok to plant a small tree. Remedios responded.
- e. Boris shared a handout on native + non-native plants; interesting recommendations. Thank you Boris. "Site conditions ALWAYS dictate plant choices." seem so logical.

- f. JCP&L contractor sent us a list of the Borough Sts that are scheduled for tree work as part of the Little Silver Substation work.
- g. N. Prospect - Jim Gant requested STC recommendations on trees to plant to help prevent erosion: Remedios responded: To prevent erosion the trees should be planted on the slope. Here are some species to consider for stabilizing the slope to prevent erosion. They all tolerate periodic flooding and can withstand wet soil.
 - i. River Birch - has a strong root system
 - ii. Black Willow - known for its ability to quickly establish root systems and stabilize banks
 - iii. Bald Cypress - wide fibrous roots that anchor deeply and laterally into the soil
 - iv. Swamp white oak - strong deep root system
- h. Peer Nancy: Resolution 25-102 is for the re-milling of Linden Place. It will include sidewalk and driveway repairs as necessary and of course curbs that are ADA compliant. The resolution also contains the design phase which included meeting with borough representatives to include Complete and Green Streets features in the proposed project limits. Borough representatives should include input from the Community Development Director, the Complete and Green Streets Advisory Committee, STC and the EC/GT.
- i. Zelkova at 39 Worthley St on Marion St - Boris reported: It has a fungus at grade and the crown isn't looking healthy. I suggest we add it to the removals list.
- j. The Arbor Day Proclamation was read at the council meeting. Boris accepted the signed proclamation for the STC. Remedios requested that the Borough fly the Tree City USA flag through the end of April. It was.
- k. London Plane at 232 Bridge Ave: Per Boris: The tree has a deep rot, which goes through most of the trunk. Plus rot higher up and poor structure. Recommendation: Add to removals list.
- l. Other new business

III. OLD BUSINESS

- a. NJUCF Stewardship Grant update - Update Terrence
 - i. Some of the new trees are dying. The new trees planted at 131 Oakland St and 232 Drs. Parker Blvd look dead.
 - ii. Some of the trees planted in 2022 are stressed out.

- iii. Dead trees - 2 Tupelos and 1 Redbud should be replaced by the contractor by May 1, 2025. Remedios sent a reminder email to Terrence. One of the homeowners, Alix Schroder Fitzgerald, of 58 Locust, requested an update. Boris responded, copying Terrence. Terrence is working with a contractor to replace the trees. Terrence please provide an update.
- iv. Removing gator bags - Gator bags have been removed.
- b. Spring Planting - Remedios requested Terrence to send out a request for a quote for 2 American Hophornbeam 3-3.5" caliper and 2 Allegheny Serviceberry 3.-3.5" caliper all with 2-year warranty for planting at the following locations: 23 Bank St, ~~93 Shrewsbury on Oakland~~, 112 Catherine St and Gold Street Parking Lot. So far no response from Terrence. It is getting late. I'm not sure this will happen. I removed 93 Shrewsbury on Oakland from the list as we discovered that the location is on top of the gas line.
- c. Tree inventory:
 - i. Michele and Boris did Drs Parker from Shrewsbury Ave to the river. A couple of Sycamores are in poor shape and candidates for removal. Around the corner from 157 Leighton Ave - large cavities. Thanks Michele and Boris
 - ii. Brigid and Boris did the southern end of Leighton, W. Sunset, W Westside Ave, Clinton Pl. The London Plane Trees on the east side of Leighton have been severely pruned by JCP&L recently. It makes them look bad. There are many cavities in the remaining limbs, so at least the pruning reduced the weight on those limbs.

We also noticed that 3 trees have been removed in the last 5 years. We don't know who or why, but they were small and not in good shape 5 years ago, so not a big loss. Thanks Boris and Brigid.
 - iii. Brigid and Boris also did the northern part of CB Park. Just one serious concern - a Red Maple has a large cavity in the crotch. Thanks Boris and Brigid
- d. English Plaza - update Debbie
- e. Replacement for removed trees on Broad St - Debbie met with Rivercenter. Update Debbie
- f. Harrison Ave Road program ; Looks like the roots of the Linden tree at the corner of River Road and the Oak tree next to it were drastically cut.
- g. 115 Catherine St - sidewalk lift. The buyer wants to keep the tree and wants to know what to do about the sidewalk lift. We recommended using concrete to even up the sidewalk. Update Debbie.

- h. DPU - continues to remove the trees that are on the removals list. Thank you.
- i. White Street parking lot replanting - Remedios sent the draft replanting plan to Terrence for confirmation of the activities marked DPU. Bill volunteered to write a Bid Spec. Bill will get a list of contractors to get quotes from. Maybe plant 2 trees this year and 2 next. Need to pack the soil to keep the tree stable. Transplanting existing trees probably won't be feasible.
- j. Trees on Broad and on Harding - they were improperly pruned. Bill will ask the county about the broad St trees. For the ones on Harding, Boris suggested STC may want to ask the Borough to send a letter to the homeowner explaining that public trees may not be touched. This also applies to 56 Harding. Michelle drafted an excellent letter to residents regarding altering trees. Thank you Michelle. Now we have to send it out.
- k. Marine Park - per Jim Gant the borough is shooting for favorable weather in the fall to plant trees in the green space together with the overall park project at once.
- l. Red Maple at 59 Madison - Per Boris: We've been monitoring the tree since 2016, when the homeowner asked us to remove it. The rot is pretty deep now, at least a foot in. The structure is poor, after having been pruned by JCP&L multiple times. There are surface roots. Recommendation: Add to the removals list
- m. Other open items from April minutes

IV. PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD APPLICATIONS

NONE

V. CONCLUSION

- a. Next meeting will be held on June 17, 2025