

Borough of Red Bank Shade Tree Committee
February 17, 2026 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7: 02
Adequate notice of the meeting has been provided.

Members present: Bill Brooks, Brigid McCarthy, Carolyn Robertshaw, Remedios Quiroz
Ex-officio member: Councilmember Nancy Facy-Blackwood
Absent: Michele Brody, Boris Kofman, Debbie Marks

Topics discussed:

1. January minutes approved
2. Training: Brigid attended a webinar from UMASS: Tree Committees and Urban Forestry: Making Collaboration Work and sent the certificate to NJ Department of Forestry
Remedios recommended that Caroline take the Core Training offered by the State
Remedios sent a link for this training to Terrence Walton. He said he will send one of his staff to the Spring Training sessions.
3. Johnny Jazz Park: The engineer's tree expert Sheri has reported that the Blue Spruce that is decorated at the holidays has to come down. It has spider mites, scale and a co dominant leader. Bill said he will decide on the right species for snow load and ice. He said we should be able to get a 14 -16 foot replacement tree that could be decorated in answer to Nancy's questions.
Action item: What kind of tree and where do we get it? Bill recommended Billy McDaid from Twin Industries
4. Planting of street trees in the spring. There have been 3 requests: 22 Worthley, 46 Chestnut and 27, 29, 31 Catherine St. Homeowners Assoc.
Action item: Bill will measure plantings strips and check for overhead wires
5. CFMP Remedios is waiting for Debbie's sections.
6. 5 William St. Bill researched rubberized sidewalk. It is a two layered system with a sub base and made with recycled tires. It is environmentally friendly but cost prohibitive. He suggested replacing the sidewalk and starting over with the tree on the property. Bill added that 90% of the planting strips in town are too small. Bill suggested replacing sidewalk tree with trees on the property to increase tree canopy for town.

7. Tree Canopy: Remedios has sent all planting information for the Shade Tree website to Fatima.

8. White Street parking lot: Bill said he had second thoughts on purchasing Magnolias as their leaves are slippery and dangerous when wet and also they have thin bark that could be damaged easily. He had a recommendation for a single stem tree Catsura with interesting bark and Fall foliage.

Action Item: Bill will investigate heights. He said this tree should be easy to find at Brock Farms or the other nurseries he recommended.

Bill said tree pits will be loaded again with gypsum because of the salt after the snow.

Big Trees: Discussion of list but it is too early for any advertising of the program. We do not have a complete story or approved list or photos yet. Will contact Redbankgreen when ready.

Planning and Zoning Board applications

199 Broad St is a county road and should donate \$3,000. to the STC. It is a question for lawyers

The Bank of America on Broad donated 2,000. because they could not plant trees.

183 Dr. James Parkers Blvd Two trees required. They requested Crabapples.

Action Item: Shade tree committee discourages Crabapples and suggests Flowering Cherries instead.

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 17th at 7:00

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Brigid McCarthy, Acting Secretary