

HSTC Minutes 7/11/2023 Meeting

1. 6:38 PM Steve J called meeting to order
 - a. In attendance: Steve J., Dina S., Karen G
2. Public duly notified of meeting's occurrence
3. Minutes could not be approved since a quorum was not in attendance.

Old Business:

1. 161 Myrtle: Homeowner has not decided if tree will be removed. Further action pending homeowner's decision.
2. WTP List:
 - a. Stumps: Stumps from 2023 WTP list and from 2023 tree removals (where stumps were not ground) need to be added to 2024 WTP list. Stump list will need to be confirmed.
3. Tree Planting: Budget was not approved in time for spring planting. Current planting list to be distributed to commission members to confirm all plantings. Current budget is \$12,619, consisting of \$8,619 in reserve funds and \$4,000 in 2023 budget funds.
4. Memorial Field playground expansion will result in 2 trees and 2 stumps being removed. Other trees with blue dots are not affected.
5. 226 Haworth Ave – No update. Further information pending installment of temporary code official since Kevin Burnette is no longer with the Borough.
6. Construction Checklist: no mention of Tree Ordinance; still open pending new permanent Code Official.
7. Social Media effort (Dina / Robin): No update
8. Tree Farm: Dina is addressing with the Borough Council; further action TBD
9. Draft Tree Ordinance: Mike and Karen sent latest draft to 2 Environmental Commission members. Karen to follow up on their review
 - a. Borough tree defined: at least 50% of the tree (centerline of tree at 4' high) must be on borough property
10. Enhanced process outline to be developed with new Borough Clerk (JoAnna Myung)
11. Dina to send outline of direction for Contractors – no update

New Business

1. Trees on current "urgent" list are being addressed the week of July 10.
2. Tree Issues: Complete list as distributed by Dina at the meeting was reviewed. Open items that require HSTC review are:
 - a. 400 Maple St – Dina to follow up with Tom Runge
 - b. 18 Owatonna St – Dina to follow up with Tom Runge
 - c. 329 Haworth Ave – Mike to review
 - d. Haworth Ave at Duck Pond – Dina to have Tom Runge identify specific trees

- e. Borough Hall – Dina to have Tom Runge identify specific tree
- f. 254 Franklin St – Steve to review
- g. 470 Herkimer – Borough Hall to contact PSE&G to prune
- h. 511 Haworth Ave – To go on next urgent list for pruning
- i. 591 McCulloch – Robin to review
- j. 233 Whitman – WTP 2024 list for removal

2023 Focus:

1. Enhance Borough awareness of what HSTC does
 - a. How inform public?
 - i. Link on town web page & newsletter? Robin S to handle and work with Karen G e.g. types of trees
 1. Robin to create a Shade Treee page
 - ii. Arbor Day: Robin update
2. Grants: seek out more opps to fund planting (noted in Dina’s report below)
 - a. Carbon offsets
 - b. Must do in conjunction with Borough
 - c. Dina to send list of Grantors/possible Grant opps with deadlines.
3. Improve relationship with DPW. On hold as new Supervisor pending

Grants:

1. Urban & Community Forestry Grant:
 - a. Did not happen this year
 - b. There is a grant for inventory: Stewardship Canopy Resiliency: what trees/species do we have and identify need
 - c. The RFP has been issued and is due mid-August
 - d. There will be an in-person working meeting for the HSTC on July 25 at 7 p.m. to work on the grant
2. Arbor Day Foundation
3. National Climate Solutions Grant
4. Urban Forrest Canopy
5. Urban & Community Forestry Report
 - a. Concern w/ statement of tree budget
 - b. Tree education
 - c. Annual Accomplishments
6. Swim Club:
 - a. Consider tree re-forestry; grants are available

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm

Upcoming HSTC Meetings

- July 25 – **Note this is a working session for the grant application**
- Sept 5

- Oct 3
- Nov 14
- Dec 5