

**BOROUGH OF WEST READING  
SHADE TREE COMMISSION  
April 5, 2021**

The Shade Tree Commission met on Monday, April 5, 2021 via ZOOM. The meeting was called to order at 6:04pm with Chair Patrick Kaag, Borough Manager Nicholas Imbesi, Chad Moyer Public Works, Commission Members Lynne Burns, Commission member Yahaira Castillo and Public Works Director Dean Murray in attendance. All present

**Public comment:** Borough resident Larry Weidner of Sunset Rd. was in attendance and was concerned with tree roots pushing sidewalks up creating trip hazard in front of his property. He was advised by Borough Codes Dept. years ago while having panels of said sidewalk replaced, that his contractor was forbidden to grind roots under the new panels. These panels have now become raised again and he is wondering what the liability issues are. He contacted his homeowners insurance carrier who advised him to mark the sidewalks with paint to make them more obvious. His question was whom was allowed to grind roots if he replaces panels again. Dean M. advised him that our public works employees would be able to coordinate this for him with his contractor.

Motion to approve the minutes of meeting from March was made by Chad M and Second by Nick I. 6-0

**New Business**

**New Tree Vendor:** Dean M. has been seeking a new vendor for tree stock for Boro. He was meeting with Plow Farms the week of the meeting to view their inventory. Asked for recommendations from Commission of other farms.

**Penn Ave Business:** The new owner of Winedown contacted Dean concerning the tree pit in front of business. The tree that is planted has been struggling to survive and needs to be replaced. She has knowledge that the past two trees have also not survived. She was asking for permission to remove tree pit and replace with planter similar to those found on the Ave and plant with tree or shrub.. Commission advised Dean M. to investigate the issue with said pit and perhaps take a soil sample to Penn State Extension for evaluation. Dean M agreed and will do so.

**Tree removal and trimming schedule:** S.5th from Spruce to Parkside Dr. N. is included in the trimming project for this year. As well as the west side of Ann St.

**Lantern Fly preparation:** Dean M. has been researching a new pesticide that is delivered at the root level that seems to be helpful in killing the at the nymph stage. Looking for new contact for pesticide purchase in next three or four weeks. Will also be taping trees that are not treated with pesticide. Will be targeting areas of infestation such as plantings of maples on 300 block of Chestnut St, Wayne Ave etc.

### **Old Business**

Council advised Tree Commission to wait on any new planting til the plan was made for beautification of traffic circle.

### **Adjournment**

The motion to adjourn was made by Chad M. 2nd by Nick I. 6-0 meeting was adjourned at 6:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lynne Burns  
Commission member