

Shade Tree Commission Meeting April 2, 2019

Hunterdon County Shade Tree Commission (HCSTC) met on the above dated in the Planning Board Conference Room at the Hunterdon County Complex, Route 12 Flemington New Jersey. The meeting notice as in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act.

Members Present: Tom Mathews, Hans Hanbicki, Bill Wild and Neil Hendrickson (Robert Becker late)

Absent: none

Audience: Dan Bush, Holland Township

Meeting called to order at 7:11 P.M. by chairman Hanbicki

Minutes:

- February 5, 2019 – Bill asked that planting a survivor's tree for 2021 Arbor Day be a separate bullet. Minutes were approved as amended.
 - Bill moved, Neil seconded Rob abstained 4-0

Correspondence

- Tree Canopy
- Musser Forests, Inc., spring catalog

Public Participation:

- Dan Bush reported that the USDA is teaming up with the Hunterdon County Parks to study the Spotted Lanternfly. They will be concentrating the study in the Musconetcong River area due to a couple vineyards in the area.
- Dan also reported wasp nymphs were released to combat the EAB on Hunterdon County Parkland in the Round Valley area.
- Holland Township has treated their ash trees on their Municipal Land for the EAB.

Old Business:

- Tree inventory- Tom reported that Plan-it-Geo LLC, is approximately 95% done with collecting the data for the project. The next phase will be them compiling the data and delivering the high priority tree reports. It was reported that there are over 250 trees on Hunterdon County roads that have priority action needed. There will be training on how to use the software and it is the intent hopefully to add to the database in the future. -Rob Becker offered to train anyone who needs it as he is well versed in the software. At Robs request, Tom will provide all members of the HCSTC access to the inventory. Tom asked the HCSTC to keep track of their hours as it needs to be reported for the Community Forestry Grant.
- Emerald Ash Borer- Neil reported that the current treatment is to inject the Ash trees every 2 years for 10 years. After that it can be soil injected.

- Spotted Lanternfly- Neil reported on the life cycle on the SLF and that they can be found on 80 species of plants/trees in the nymph stage. The SLF squirts as it is feeding and the excrement attracts bees and other stinging insects. The SLF does not fly but actually hops from the tree tops The can hop up to 100 ft but average 25-50 feet. They are natural hitch hikers and that is how they are being spread.

Annual Accomplishment Report:

- Tom reported that the Freeholders have approved it and it was sent to the state.

Hans asked that we recognize A.R. Wiley for his service to the HCSTC over the years. It was agreed to request a proclamation.

New Business:

- Membership- Tom reported that Dan Bush has submitted an application for membership.
- Arbor Day Celebration- April 26, 2019 at 1PM at Heron Glen Golf Course. It was discussed to plant a shade tree such as a sugar maple
- Robert Becker reported that the Urban Forestry program is taking grant applications for 2020 if we have any projects we would like to apply for.
- Neil reported that the Callery pear are suffering from a rust and that they will begin to die off in the next couple of years unless properly treated.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 a motion by Neil Hendrickson , seconded by Bill Wlld. Motion passed 5-0

Next meeting is June 3, 2019