

## Meeting Minutes for Shade Tree Commission March 30, 2022

Hunterdon County Shade Tree Commission (HCSTC) met on the above in the large assembly room in Building #1 of the Route 12 County Complex. The meeting notice is in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act.

Members Present: Bill Wild, Tom Mathews, Hans Hanbicki, Keith Decker, Dan Bush, Neil Hendrickson, Shawn VanDoren

Meeting called to order at 7:00 P.M.

Minutes: Minutes of January 2, 2022 were approved with Neil Hendrickson abstaining.

Public Participation: None

Correspondence: None

### Old Business

- **Beech Leaf Disease** – there has been an unconfirmed report that the disease has been spotted in Vorhees State Park in Lebanon Township. There is no cure or vaccine yet.
- **Spotted Lantern Fly** – Ailanthus tree not the only tree they will flock to. They will also gather on other trees such as red maple. It is no longer an accepted practice to remove Ailanthus trees to get rid of the SLF.
- **High Risk Tree Removal** – It was discussed that “high risk” is the proper terminology and how the risk is rated when doing an assessment. The County continues to remove high risk trees along its roadways and in its parks. 15 to 20 percent of Hunterdon’s forests are ash trees.
- **5-Year Community Forestry Plan** – A plan will be put together for the Commission to review.
- **Arbor Day Celebration** – Keith pick out an Lacebark Elm to be planted Hunterdon County Arbor Day Celebration at 9am on April 29<sup>th</sup> at the Hunterdon County Arboretum. Twenty-one schools have requested trees for their own Arbor Day celebration. Three Rutgers Dogwoods will be planted at the Blue Star Memorial in Readington Township.
- **Annual Accomplishment Report** – It was submitted in February.

### New Business:

- **Dan Bush** has completed the core training.
- **Oak Wilt** – has not been reported in this area yet, it is in central PA.
- It was approved to have Hunterdon County Park Staff transplant trees from the 300<sup>th</sup> nursery to the Melicks Bridge Park in Clinton Township.
- Next meeting – May 25, 2022, 6pm

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24.