

BOROUGH OF BRIDGEVILLE
SHADE TREE COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2026 – 7:00PM

The meeting was held in Council Chambers at the Borough Building, 425 Bower Hill Road and virtually on www.zoom.us. The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM.

Present included: Jen Brilmyer, Alison Thomas, Kayla Lawrence, Virginia Schneider and Borough Manager Joseph Kauer.

Absent: Courtney Tolmer

Public comment (on / off agenda) VISITORS PLEASE STATE NAME AND ADDRESS:

Justine Cimarolli, 632 Bank St., questioned if the Commission has an inventory of trees it has planted? Mrs. Brilmyer stated that the Commission does. Ms. Cimarolli stated that the recently planted trees within the McLaughlin Run Park meadow did not take and should be replanted. The Borough Manager stated that he will report this to the DCNR to seek their help to replace them under warranty.

Mrs. Brilmyer recommended that we create a second spreadsheet where we can record inspections and maintenance of the public trees.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Motion to adopt the February 2, 2026, meeting minutes were made by Mrs. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Schneider; motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Spring TreeVitalize Application – application delayed and being considered for Fall Planting. Manager Kauer reported that this same thing happened to us in 2025.
2. Day on the Avenue Booth, Saturday, June 20th, 11A to 5P
Mrs. Thomas stated that she will work the early shift in the booth. Mrs. Brilmyer, Mrs. Schneider and Ms. Lawrence stated that they will also work the booth.

Ms. Lawrence reported that she has created a handout that we can pass out, cost to print 300 copies is \$155.

Ms. Thomas suggested that we have a children's activity at our booth and that she will coordinate that.
3. Tree Pittsburgh Municipal Tree Adoption Event in Bridgeville
Manager Kauer reported that he has been contact with Tree Pittsburgh about having a free tree give away event in Bridgeville this fall. We'll know more this summer if it is possible and it can be done at the Borough Building within the side parking lot.
4. Front Yard Shade Trees (similar to Crafton's program)
Manager Kauer reviewed a program that the Borough can provide free mature trees for front yards, planted by the Borough, through the Shade Tree Commission. He recommended an agreement be made up by the Solicitor to memorialize the tree's ownership by the property owner and maintenance requirements once planted.

The Commission asked the Manager to prepare a project budget and suggested that specific streets be offered at a time to make a significant impact. Regarding the right tree for each yard,

the Commission suggested we seek professional advice from some of the colleagues we have made.

OLD BUSINESS:

5. Review of Tree Tender Training, Saturday, February 28
Mrs. Brilmyer reported that she reviewed the surveys from the training and that it was well received and that several people asked to learn more about identifying trees and diseases. It was suggested that we ask Tree Pittsburgh to come back and offer a second class focusing on this. The Manager stated that he'll contact Tree Pittsburgh to make the inquiry.
6. Develop Rolling List of Possible Tree Planting Locations
Mrs. Brilmyer stated that the Commission members need to walk Bridgeville to identify sites to keep the list ready for future projects and grant applications.
7. Identify Grants for Tree Plantings
The Commission stated that other grant programs are out there to help plant trees including state grants through the DCNR and private programs such as the NFL Draft. The Manager suggested the Commission focus on creating a project first, then look for funding with a specific project in mind.
8. Planting of Tree to recognize American 250 / Bridgeville 125 Anniversary Year
The Commission agreed to create a plaque that we can have ready for placement during our fall tree planting event to commemorate a tree within Triangle Park that would honor Bridgeville's 125 and America 250 anniversary year.
9. Newsletter Article Published
The Commission reported that Mrs. Tolmer did an excellent job with the article.
10. Shade Tree Commission Logo
No action was taken as Mrs. Tolmer wasn't in attendance, but it was stated that the Logo is needed to be in place before the Day on the Avenue event to be on our handouts.
11. General Discussion
Mrs. Thomas stated that she would like to organize community volunteer events to remove invasive species around Bridgeville, including the area behind the library. She stated that she can coordinate with Ms. Guiliani from the Planning Commission who is working on organizing volunteer programs in the Borough.

Ms. Guiliani asked if PENNDOT will replant trees along Chartiers Street after they are done working on the Chartiers Street slide repair project? The Manager stated that he wasn't sure but will ask their Project Engineer.

PUBLIC COMMENT (GENERAL ITEMS) VISITORS PLEASE STATE NAME AND ADDRESS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Schneider, seconded by Mrs. Thomas; meeting adjourned at 7:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Kauer
Borough Manager