

**Meeting Minutes for West Pittston Shade Tree Commission Meeting  
May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

In Attendance:

Marta Jones, Treasurer  
Lynn Burbank, Secretary  
Matthew Carroll, Commission Member  
Keighlyn Oliver, Solicitor  
Mary Portelli, resident  
Jason Barrett, resident

A quorum is in attendance and the meeting was called to order at 7:00pm

**Action Items**

1. Marta Jones made a motion to accept the minutes of the meeting held on May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024, as emailed, and presented by Lynn Burbank. Matthew Carroll seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
2. Lynn Burbank made a motion to allow DPW workers to trim tree lawn trees as necessary for public safety. Ansi standards are on file in the borough office. This is subject to the council allowing them to perform this duty. Marta will be working with Vincent Cutrone to advise them on the proper way to prune a tree.
3. A motion was made by Marta Jones to approve the removal of a tree at 701 Montgomery Avenue and pruning of two trees located at 611 Wyoming Avenue. Matthew Carroll seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
4. Matthew Carroll made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 pm.

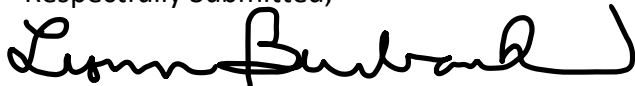
**Other Items**

1. The financial report was given. We currently have a balance of \$9,996.67 as reported by Treasurer Marta Jones. We are still waiting for reimbursement from the borough for our 2023 legal expenses in the amount of \$891.65. Much of this will be spent on our fall planting.
2. Louis Berti had to cancel his meeting with Charles Barone, the representative of the estate of Judith Barone, regarding the four damaged trees at 45 Luzerne Avenue. It will be rescheduled as soon as possible.
3. Matthew Carroll and Louis Berti compiled a list of trees that are hazardous and stumps that need to be removed. Marta Jones will be reviewing the list before letters go out to determine if they were removals were done with a permit. Stump removal is a requirement so even if a permit was approved, the stump should have been removed and will need to be removed within 30 days.
4. Resident Jason Barrett asked if the shade tree commission would be able to help him resolve an issue with his neighbor at 110 Luzerne Avenue. His property at 115 Liberty Street has solar panels which are being blocked by a large tree that is hanging onto his

property from his neighbor's property. It was explained that we only have control over trees on tree lawns. He was referred to our zoning officer.

5. Citations are being issued this week for the removal and pruning of several trees on the tree lawn located at 1200 Susquehanna Avenue. There was a question regarding stump removal that has been addressed. Solicitor Oliver has stated she will be present at a hearing to walk us through the process since we do not have prior experience with code enforcement.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lynn Burbank". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "L" and a long, sweeping underline.

Lynn Burbank, Secretary