

**The Ocean City Shade Tree Committee  
City Hall Council Chambers  
861 Asbury Avenue  
Ocean City, NJ 08226**

**Meeting Minutes from Tuesday March 3rd, 2026  
9:00 Am Meeting**

**Meeting Called to Order: 9:06 AM**

**Open Public Meetings Act Announcement:** Adequate notice of this meeting has been given pursuant to Public Law 1975: Chapter 231

**Membership Roll Call:**

**Present:** Joseph Clark, J. Michael Lehman, Marie Crawford, Donna Moore

**Absent:** Mary Louise Hayes, Kyle Costello, Joshua Linthicum, Sandra Simpson

**Public Comment:** None

**Approval of the Minutes** – Wednesday, February 4th, 2026

**Old Business:** Michael reported on the status of ongoing public landscaping and/or planting projects.

- City is actively assessing tree damage due to storm. Removal & Pruning ongoing.
- Pine tree inside park at 401 Wesley Ave. Park removed due to uprooting

**New Business**

- Discussion of those present concerning application of fertilizers weakening tree roots
- Review of the Planning & Zoning Board applications as they pertain to the Ocean City Shade Tree Ordinance for the following locations:
  - **3128 Asbury Ave.** - Approved, no action at this time.
  - **2904-06 Wesley Ave.** Recommended planting of one large caliper shade tree, or two smaller trees such as redbud.
  - **621 Battersea Rd.** - Approved as planned.
  - **2201 Bay Ave.** - Approved as planned.
- **Review of the Shade Tree Account:** The zoning office provided a statement of the Shade Tree Account ending in 0107. Balance of 01/31/2026 is \$27,886.28 with additions of \$700.00 \$1.45 in interest was transferred to account ending in 7738. \$350 Funds were received for the month of January for two trees, from Great Atlantic Building for 21 Pine Rd., and Calzi, at 505 Gull Rd. to total \$700 received in January 2025.
- Joe will speak to Kyle Costello and Mark Thompson about selecting stock from an area nursery for the primary school project.
- Donation from Allyson Kliefoth requesting opportunity to donate to a tree fund. Committee agreed Joe Clark will followup with the donor about the amount of donation and choosing a site. They are not requesting the tree be marked with his name. Joe suggested planting the tree for Arbor Day and inviting the family to the dedication.
- Donna Moore suggested the committee identify specific locations of existing trees and consider completing a new inventory using block and lot numbers, or street addresses and consult with an arborist. Joe noted that we need to find an arborist, which is not in budget this year.
- **Reminder** – Next meeting date - Wednesday, March 25th, 2026 at 9:00 AM
- **Pending business** to be considered at the next meeting on Wednesday, March 25th 2026, 9AM Joe will email committee members with possible dates in March or April for the committee's site survey to determine where trees are needed. A van will be provided to transport committee members.

**Adjournment of the Meeting: 10:41 A.M.**

**Public Comment - None**

Minutes Submitted by Marie Crawford, Secretary (mgc 003/03/26)