

City of Ocean City
Shade Tree Committee Meeting
City Hall, City Council Chambers, Room 301
861 Asbury Avenue
Ocean City, NJ 08226

Meeting Minutes from Wednesday, June, 24th, 2026

Meeting Called to Order: 9:00 A.M.

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

Roll Call:

Present: Joseph Clark, Jr. Mary Louise Hayes, Sandra Simpson, Joshua Linthicum, Michael Lehman, Donna Moore, Marie Crawford, Secretary

Absent: Kyle Costello, (City Liaison)

Public Comment on Agenda Items Only - none

Approval of the Minutes: The Committee approved the Minutes from May 27th, 2026.

Old Business:

- Report on ongoing public landscaping and/or planting projects - Donna Moore will submit notes from the Committee's drive tour at the next meeting.
- State of New Jersey Permitted Trees - Update of Ocean City's list of permitted trees is in progress.
- Donation - Allyson Kliefoth will connect with Joe Clark when they return to the area.
- Pesticides - See minutes 5/27/26. Donna Moore added that lawn grass is a non-native monoculture.

New Business:

- The following property plans were submitted for compliance review and comments by the Committee:
 - o 800 Bridge Blvd. - Approved. Pears are in place, Joe Clark will advise owner that when those trees come down, pears cannot be replanted
 - o 8 E. Dundee Road - Approved per plan. Two trees. Pear trees not permitted per NJ State law
 - o 629 Asbury Avenue - Approved with one tree, per plan. Pear trees not permitted per NJ State law
 - o 215 17th Street - Approved with five trees per plan. Pear trees not permitted per NJ State law
 - o 1914 Glenwood Drive - Approved two trees, per plan. Pear trees not permitted per NJ State law
 - o 3829-31 Central Avenue - Not approved. No trees show on plan.
- Review of the Shade Tree Account - No information available at this time.
- Cash Buyouts - Committee requests to be informed of cash buyouts. Joe will update at next meeting.
- Sandy Simpson asked about enforcement of removal of dead trees at 35 West Ave per previous minutes. Joe Clark reported that the diseased trees were reported to code enforcement and have been removed. The diseased trees had large overhanging branches which were falling onto property and into the right of way.
- Joe met with Jane Custer for the primary school project to memorialize Mackenzie Helpenstine. Their fund has since received donations due to our joint event bringing attention to the memorial.
- Green Fair - Scheduled for Friday, August 21st., at the Music Pier. Joe, Mary Louise, Sandy, Donna, Mike, Josh, and Marie have agreed to volunteer. Joe will send an email with time slots.
- Pending business to be considered at the next meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, July 22nd, 2026 @ 9:00 A.M.: Placement of trees on city property per our shade tree tour.

Adjournment of the Meeting: 9:58 AM

Marie Crawford, Secretary
(mgc 6/24/2026)