

# Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes

## March 9, 2026

---

Commission Member Scott Nichols called the regular meeting to order at 8:32AM in the Council Meeting Room of the Borough Office at 14 Crafton Street. The pledge of allegiance was recited by all.

Attending were Commission Members Scott Nichols, Brian Kennedy, Brett Mengee, Borough Manager Louis Rachiele, Administrative Assistant Tiffany Thomas, Mike White with Treemasters, and Mr. George Loughery from 15 King St.

Commission Member Brian Kennedy made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2026 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commission Member Brett Mengee and carried.

### **Public Comments on Agenda Items – None**

**Welcome Brett Mengee** – Commission welcomed Brett Mengee as the newest member of the Shade Tree Commission. Brett spoke about having a voice in the community and the ability to help pick what trees are planted throughout Wellsboro. He looks forward to this new endeavor with the Shade Tree Commission.

**Spring Planting Plans** – Commission Member Brian Kennedy sent an email with the planting plan for April 2025. The Commission will be planting 40 trees rather than the original 20 trees. The trees are being purchased through the Tree PA Grant and the Wellsboro Canopy Grant. The Wellsboro Canopy Grant prefers native trees and Commission Member Brian Kennedy emailed that list to Emily Shosh from DCNR and she approved the trees picked for planting.

**DCNR Canopy Grant** – The designated trees for the Grant were removed and pruned to specifications. The pricing on the project came in good enough to do another round of removal and pruning this year. This will be winter work for next spring planting. We are required to use a 1:1 replacement ratio of trees removed to trees planted.

**Arbor Day Celebration** – April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026 is Arbor Day. The Commission would like to designate a day to celebrate. Members discussed what day and came to the decision to celebrate on April 24<sup>th</sup>. This year marks Wellsboro's 30<sup>th</sup> Year as a Tree City USA Member. Because of this Commission Member Brett Mengee suggested to purchase a special B&B tree for the occasion. Commission Member Brian Kennedy seconded the motion. The Commission will make a selection from Schichtels Nursery and make arrangements for the celebration and tree planting.

**Master Gardener Tree Tour** – Daria Guelig who spoke with Commission Member Brian Kennedy would like to have a dedication on April 10<sup>th</sup> at the Chamber of Commerce Building. This is when the group will post their new sign.

**Hazard Tree Requests – None**

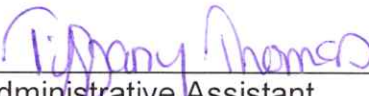
Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes  
March 9, 2026

---

**Discussion – Developing a Master Plan for Wellsboro’s Urban Forest(Community Tree Plan)** - Commission Member Brian Kennedy presented a handout written by William Elmendorf, PH.D from the Penn State Extension called Community Tree Plans: A Guide for Tree Commissions and Advisory Councils. The Commission wants to work with the Borough on the current ordinance regarding the Shade Tree areas and vision for the Shade Tree Commission. The decision needs to be made as to what trees Shade Tree Commission assumes responsibility for and a goal for Shade Tree Commission.

**Adjourn** – Commission Member Brian Kenney made a motion to adjourn at 9:06AM. The motion was seconded by Commission Member Brett Mengee. The next Shade Tree Commission meeting is on April 13, 2026 @ 8:30AM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Administrative Assistant