

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SHADE TREE COMMISSION– TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN**

November 10, 2016

OAKHURST, NEW JERSEY

The Regular Meeting was held in the Second Floor, West Wing Conference Room, Town Hall, 399 Monmouth Road Oakhurst, NJ 07755 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Chairwoman Von Gerichten
Member(s) Pogwist, Colten, Kleim, Johnson
Alternate(s)
Associate(s) Lutz,

Absent: Member(s)
Alternate(s) Gordon
Associate(s) Gulick

Others: Laura Dorony, Secretary
Jack Kearns, Resident
Devin Goldman, Resident

Statement of Compliance with Open Public Meetings Law:

Laurel Von Gerichten announced that the notice requirements of the Open Public Meeting Law for this meeting have been satisfied; a copy of the Annual Notice was sent to the Asbury Park Press and The Coaster, posted in Town Hall and filed in the office of the Township Clerk on June 3, 2016.

REVIEW:

1. September 1, 2016 minutes
2. Agenda
3. Budget – No Updates
4. Correspondence – None

A motion to adopt the September 1, 2016 minutes was made by Ray Pogwist and seconded by Laurel Von Gerichten

In Favor: Von Gerichten, Pogwist, Colten, Johnson,
Opposed: None
Ineligible: Lutz
Absent: Gordon, Rogoff

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Plan for Poplar Village Site:

The DPW has a goal of no maintenance for this site. However, without intervention of some sort the site may well become overgrown with invasives. Hank Kleim had suggested using trees that are left over from last year's tree give away. One idea is to plant in groups and put deer control to protect the trees. It was also suggested to reach out to the Boy Scouts for assistance in planting. The planting would possibly take place in early spring.

Shade Tree Conference:

No one attended. Bruce Crawford was one of the speakers. This conference would have given our Shade Tree Commission C.E.U.'s. The Shade Tree Commission is going to look into the possibility that The Green Living Talks may count as C.E.U.'s.

Progress on the Township website for the STC presence:

The Shade Tree Commission Currently has a page on the Townships website. The STC will look to put links on this site to aid residents with any concerns regarding trees, such as deer protection.

Community Outreach:

NJNG sent someone to the Green Living Talk to talk about saving on energy costs. Not one person showed to this meeting. Member Mary Johnson was concerned over lack of attendance. Rachel from the Library has been very helpful and wants to plan more programs. The talks on deer control had the best turnout. Member Mary Johnson is asking for suggestions on what topics would draw residents to come to the talks. A talk informing residents about Emerald Ash Borer, which is destroying trees in many areas, might draw attendance.

Pruning Event:

Denise Buckley, Laurel Von Gerichten, and Tom Hardy met in Palaia Park for this event on October 22, but no one else showed up due to inclement weather. It was decided to postpone pruning until the spring. The Shade Tree Commission hopes to have more publicity and it would probably be a better time for the DPW.

Possible Tree Give away next year:

The Shade Tree Commission decided to have another tree give-away next spring, supported as this year by the state forestry division who provided whips. The librarian wants this event to occur at the library at the Earth Day Event.

1406 Woodlock tree removal:

There are three large London Plane trees between the sidewalk and the curb. The homeowner is concerned they will ruin the sidewalk and wants permission to remove these three trees. Chairwoman Laurel Von Gerichten assessed these trees on Google Earth and saw that they were healthy. Member Hank Kleim thinks the homeowner should be referred to our Township Engineer. It was also suggested that the sidewalk be changed instead of removing the trees, such as elevating the walkway.

Tree work list:

Member Hank Kleim supplied a list of all a number of trees in town that need to be taken care of. Hank informed the STC that there will be 5 trees replaced at Wayside Park. Associate Ken Lutz suggested 5 Plum Trees, or another type of ornamental tree. Chairwoman Laurel is going to check into dead trees by the Township library. Laurel approved Tree Work List. There was also a request by the home owner of 7 Malke Dr. to remove trees. HANK suggested the owner come to a Shade Tree Commission meeting and explain the request, the STC suggests she can remove 2 not 12.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Dorony
Secretary