

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

JULY 11, 2013

OAKHURST, NEW JERSEY

The Regular Meeting was held in the Manager's Conference room, Town Hall, 399 Monmouth Road, Oakhurst, NJ 07755 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

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

Absent: Member(s) Kliem, Blejwas
Associate(s) Rogoff, Gulick

Others: Amanda Norakus, Secretary

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 7, 2013.

A motion to adopt the June 6, 2013 minutes was made by Ray Pogwist and seconded by Moshe Gordon.

In Favor: Colten, Pogwist, Von Gerichten, Gordon
Opposed: None
Ineligible: Lutz
Absent: Kliem, Blejwas, Rogoff, Gulick

ITEMS FOR UPDATES:

Tree Inventory

The council passed a resolution at the 07/10/13 meeting to allocate \$2,000 for one quadrant to be inventoried by Focus on Training USA LLC.

Green Communities Grant

There was an award of (\$2,000) received to create the next version of Community Forestry Management Plan. A list from the New Jersey State Forestry Services of consultants available to write CFMPs was passed around. It was suggested that a letter be sent to several of these consultants who cover Monmouth County, to ask them for a proposal to write the CFMP. It was also noted that the grant requires a match in either funding or volunteer hours from the Township.

Recommendations for:

- a. Dahrouge Park – DPW will cut knotweed and bamboo. The DPW will be requested to avoid cutting native tree saplings. In the fall, an evergreen tree will be planted in a spot previously identified.
- b. SE intersection of Deal Road and Route 35 – Fire official, Tom Haege, will visit the area to assess the risk of kindling increasing the likelihood of fire.
- c. Land behind and SW of Ellen Court – This area will be the pilot for replanting of Township land. The process will be documented to refine the plans for future efforts. A site visit was planned to assess the tasks needed, such as removing invasive vines, and determining where tree saplings will be planted. The plan calls for protection of the saplings from deer browse, and identification with a ribbon on each tree planted.

Increase canopy on Township Land

The County, which owns Weltz Park, may have interest in joining forces on replanting. The ST commission will contact the County to explore opportunities for replanting.

Dallas's grove

The grove will be a place to recognize people for their contributions to the environment. It will be named in honor of Dallas Grove who served for 40 years on the Township of Ocean Environmental Commission. The original plan donated by Laurel Von Gerichten will be used as a template for plantings. The places where trees will be planted will be designated on site with markers for placement of the future trees. The STC will begin to implement the plan by planting a few trees in order to start the grove.

Tree Removal Concerns

The members discussed their concerns with tree removal occurring on Logan road and N Edgemere Rd. The STC was given plans with the proposed tree removals for the entire road program, but had the understanding that they would be contacted when the plan was being implemented. At that time, they would walk the site to assess which trees were to be removed, as they did for the Sunset Road portion. However, the Township did not notify the STC of the

implementation of the Logan Road and N. Edgemere portions of the plan, so the STC did not have an input. The Township will provide the road improvement plans to the STC, and the STC will schedule their site reviews to be independent of when the implementations are to occur.

The STC will follow up with an email to the Township Manager asking about the tree replanting program for the roads where trees were removed, and propose that even if a resident on those roads did not have a tree removed, they should be offered a new tree in the replanting program.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

2013 – 2014 Meeting Dates

The members finalized meeting dates for the upcoming year. Secretary, Amanda Norakus, has satisfied the necessary requirements by filing the list with the Township Clerk, posted in Town Hall, and sent the notice to Asbury Park Press and The Coaster.

A motion to adopt the following 2013 – 2014 meeting dates was made by Ray Pogwist and seconded by Laurel Von Gerichten.

July 11, 2013	January 2, 2014
August 1, 2013	February 6, 2014
September 12, 2013	March 6, 2014
October 3, 2013	April 3, 2014
November 7, 2013	May 1, 2014
December 5, 2013	June 12, 2014

In Favor: Colten, Pogwist, Von Gerichten, Gordon
Opposed: None
Ineligible: Lutz
Absent: Kliem, Blejwas, Rogoff, Gulick

Concerns:

Ray Pogwist recommended the Township notify the STC when any tree is taken down in the ROW, park, or other public land. Laurel Von Gerichten will send a formal email requesting such.

A second concern discussed was the trimming by electric companies to remove limbs near wires. The STC will look into inviting a member of JCP&L to a meeting to discuss pruning strategies that promote tree health and structure.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Norakus
Secretary