

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

May 2, 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
Paul Drucker
Alan Smedes

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 25, 2012.

A motion to adopt the April 4, 2013 minutes was made by Laurel Von Gerichten and seconded by Ray Pogwist.

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

ITEMS FOR UPDATES:

Publicity for Bruce Crawford presentation

The press release was sent out by secretary, Amanda Norakus, to the Asbury Park Press, The Coaster, and News 12 NJ. The flyers will be posted in town hall at the front desk, in the Human Services department, the library, and posted to the township website event calendar.

Posting minutes and agenda to website

The agenda and minutes will be posted to the township website in the requested format.

Vine Removal

Laurel Von Gerichten voiced her concern about the amount of vine take over in Palaia Park. There have not been any official updates of best action to take.

Funding for Sandy

It was noted there have been updates in local newspapers regarding funding being released on a state level.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Tree inventory: company recommendation

There have been two responses from interested tree services to provide a township tree inventory. The tree service will inventory hazard trees in one or all of the four quadrants.

Laurel motioned to pursue discussions with Focus on Training USA LLC for a tree inventory on one quadrant for \$2,100. The commission will request a meeting with Focus on Training USA LLC in order to further gather details and potentially a contract if finalized. The motion was seconded by Ray Pogwist.

In Favor: Colten, Pogwist, Von Gerichten, Gordon

Opposed: None

Ineligible: Lutz

Absent: Kliem, Blejwas, Rogoff, Gulick

A follow up with Bill McMahon will occur to discuss which quadrant had the most storm damage. This quadrant will be chosen to be reviewed first.

Green Communities Grant

There was an award of (\$2,000) received to create next version of Community Forestry Management Plan

Dallas Grove grove – Palaia Park

The commission was unable to address this topic.

Increase the Canopy Items

The commission was unable to address this topic.

Requests by residents to have trees planted on Township property

Dahrouge Park:

Paul Drucker addressed the commission about his concern of two large Oak and Evergreen trees falling during the storm. The losses of these trees have caused a lack of privacy issue for residences. He proposed that new trees could be planted to replace those losses. The commission decided to have a site visit to evaluate the area. The commission will investigate whether the blacktop near the creek can be recommended to be removed. In addition, the commission will evaluate the number and location of trees in order to propose a replant.

Trees in park near N. Edgemere along Deal Lake:

This location was not addressed.

Township owned land behind and SW of Ellen Court:

This location will be coupled with the below location.

Trees planted at the SE intersection of Deal Road and Rt. 35:

Alan Smedes addressed the commission about his concern for the excessive amount of downed and damaged trees in this area. The amount of debris can yield an issue of fire hazard. In order to aid in rebuilding this area, he suggested the township provide saplings with deer protection. The commission decided to conduct a site visit to assess the situation in order to proceed with a written proposal.

Concerns:

None

Seeing there were no additional comments, a motion to adjourn was made by Ray Pogwist; it was seconded by Norman Colten. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

In Favor: Colten, Pogwist, Von Gerichten, Gordon

Opposed: None

Ineligible: Lutz

Absent: Kliem, Blejwas, Rogoff, Gulick

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Norakus
Secretary