

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

**FEBRUARY 6, 2014**

**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,  
Alternate Johnson  
Associate Lutz

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

**Others:**  
Gillian Natanagara, Resident  
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.

**REVIEW:**

1. January 16, 2014 minutes
2. Agenda
3. Budget – No Updates
4. Correspondence – None

A motion to adopt the January 16, 2014 minutes was made by Mary Johnson and seconded by Ray Pogwist.

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

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

## **Review Accomplishment Report for 2013**

The members reviewed the annual accomplishment report for 2013.

### **CFMP**

Laurel Von Gerichten shared comments regarding the meeting with Bill Brash. Bill completed the first draft of the Community Forestry Management Plan. He requested the commission spend time on setting goals and objectives for the next five years. He also requested an electronic map of the township.

The goals and objectives were set as follows:

1. Review ordinances
  - a. Review the ordinance that involves a homeowner being responsible for trees within the right of way
  - b. Review any other ordinances that involve street trees
  - c. Discuss with council recommendations on what should be updated / what should remain
  - d. Explore usage of the Shade Tree Fund
2. Increase the canopy and maintain forestry.
  - a. Diversify tree species
  - b. Combat any threats to trees, invasives, insects
3. Tree ordinance
  - a. Request to be posted on the township website in a place where it can be easily found
4. Communications / timeliness of actions
  - a. Request that the Shade Tree Commission is informed when ever a street tree is being removed by a homeowner or a public tree is being removed by Public Works
5. Community Outreach
  - a. Education/promote benefits of trees
  - b. Stronger presence with Township schools
6. Hazard Tree Inventory - Current
  - a. Assess the inventory and its effectiveness
  - b. Follow up on what has / has not been removed
  - c. Replanting Removed Trees
7. Hazard Tree Inventory – Future
  - a. Conduct 2<sup>nd</sup> quadrant
  - b. Measurements
  - c. Effectiveness
  - d. Add survey results to the website
8. Explore Grants

### **Street Tree Replanting Program**

Laurel presented an announcement that National Arbor Foundation partnering with BJ's is hosting a tree giveaway event. The event will occur in the end of March / early April. There will be bareroot trees available for free. The giveaway will have a limit of five trees per resident. The members decided to ask Public Works if they wanted to have a pickup site of their own instead of BJ's. The commission will seek to receive 150 brochures to be placed at town hall, the library, etc. In addition, Amanda Norakus, secretary will follow up on whether information on the event can be posted to the Township website.

Based on the assessment that this event would be very similar to a residential street tree program the commission had been developing, the members decided to postpone finalizing the street tree replanting program .Therefore, the members will support the BJ's giveaway and hope to learn from this event so as to benefit the residential street tree planting program in the future .

### **Seedlings**

Secretary, Amanda Norakus, has begun the process of ordering the Arbor Day seedlings. The members discussed choosing an appropriate movie to give to the schools to view before the seedlings are delivered. This would maximize education about the seedlings.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amanda Norakus  
Secretary