

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

**JANUARY 16, 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, Blejwas, Kliem  
Associate Lutz

**Absent:** Member(s) Colten  
Alternate Gordon  
Associate(s) Rogoff, Gulick

**Others:** Mary Johnson, Resident  
Diane Surmonte, Resident  
Gillian Natanagara, Resident  
Tom Crochet, Director of Public Works  
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 January 9, 2014.

**REVIEW:**

1. December 5, 2013 minutes
2. Agenda
3. Budget – No Updates
4. Correspondence – None

A motion to adopt the December 5, 2013 minutes was made by Ray Pogwist and seconded by Laurel Von Gerichten.

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

## **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

### **Arbor Day Seedlings**

The members discussed the annual practice of giving seedlings to the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders in township schools. Laurel Von Gerichten made a motion to allocate up to \$100.00 for seedlings. It was seconded by Ray Pogwist.

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

### **Tree Replanting**

**Laurel Von Gerichten reported on the specifics of the Chatham Township sapling sale, which had been written up in the ANJEC Report, Winter 2014. The information gathered from people involved with the sapling sale influenced the discussion of how Ocean Township might help residents replant.**

The members discussed partnering with the Environmental Commission regarding the tree replanting program. This would permit both public and private land to be targeted. The members decided to focus on bare root or container trees at approximately three feet in height. They decided this height would be most manageable. In addition, educational sessions would need to be presented on how to manage and care for trees. The advertising would include links on the website, newspaper ads, and posts at the recycling center.

Members, Laurel Von Gerichten, Ray Pogwist, Hank Kliem, and resident Mary Johnson agreed to contribute their time to determine specifics of the program in order to get it started.

### **Urban Forest**

Members discussed whether money collected from the cell tower in Palaia Park could be used for training an employee in the Department of Public Works in maintenance procedures such as vine removal in the park.

### **“Old Oak Park”**

The members decided to choose two-inch-calipertrees to be planted. Bids will be taken.

### **CFMP Recommendation**

The Council passed a resolution to hire William Brash to develop the Community Forestry Management Plan. The contract has been prepared, signed, and

sent to William Brash. The commission will contact him in order to discuss details of preparing the plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amanda Norakus  
Secretary