

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

**March 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,  
Hank Kliem  
Associate Lutz

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

**Others:** Maggie Boyce, Resident  
Kate Maloney, 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. February 6, 2014 minutes
2. Agenda
3. Budget – No Updates
4. Correspondence – None

A motion to adopt the February 6, 2014 minutes was made by Laurel Von Gerichten and seconded by Ray Pogwist.

In Favor: Pogwist, Von Gerichten, Kliem

Opposed: None

Ineligible:

Absent: Rogoff, Gulick, Colten, Lutz, Blejwas, Johnson, Gordon

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.5",  
First line: 0"

## ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

### Tree Recovery Campaign: Tree Giveaway

The members reviewed the program and current plans. They also discussed the concerns over the possibility of seedlings being left over after the giveaway and what we could do to take care of them.

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0"

1. Between 1,000-2,000 seedlings to be ordered.
  - a. 5 per resident (potentially)
  - b. Particular kind of seedlings – appropriate for Monmouth County area
  - c. Pick up date: March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014. Laurel spoke with Alec McCartney at the Community Forestry Program about how the trees could be kept viable until the desired distribution to residents, which was hoped to be at the Green Fair planned for late April. Because the trees would likely break dormancy during that period, it was decided that distribution to residents should be much earlier.
2. Distribution at BJ's on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014 11am – 3pm for multiple communities
  - a. Alec offered to bring the order for Ocean Township up to BJ's on that date, since they are coming anyway.
  - b. Instructions on planting to be provided to residents by Alec.
  - c. Seedlings must be planted right away.
  - d. "Get the word out" through internet, signs, and newspapers.
3. Left over seedlings
  - a. Create a nursery: pick designated protected area and plant; dig up a year later for another possible giveaway– should be fairly damp and closed off from deer with deer or snow fencing, tubing, or spraying.
    - i. Create a nursery.
  - b. Issues with nursery
    - i. Where would be the best location?
    - ii. After the trees are grown, how and where to move them.
    - iii. How to get volunteers for possible giveaway of grown trees.

Formatted: Superscript

Formatted: Superscript

Formatted

Formatted

### CFMP

Laurel Von Gerichten introduced Bill Brash along with his completed second draft of the Community Forestry Management Plan. The commission spent time reviewing the appropriate time frames to achieve the goals and objectives of the plan, the tree canopy cover percentages, the township's tree related budget, and the forms and applications for trees and tree removals.

Formatted: Indent: First line: 0"

1. Township's Tree Related Ordinances and Availability
  - a. Can be reviewed throughout 2014.

- b. Clarify role of Shade Tree Commission with respect to trees planted as “street trees” vs. trees planted in the ROW (a practice now discouraged for new plantings.)
- 2. Forest Canopy and community forest resource
  - a. Ongoing goal over the next 5 years.
  - b. Diversify tree species and continue tree planting programs.
  - c. Explore uses for the Shade Tree Fund in 2014.
    - i. Look into “heritage tree” ordinance from other towns. For example, if an old tree is on a property it must be assessed for value. If the tree cannot be avoided and is taken down, the value of the tree would be put into the Shade Tree Fund.
- 3. Improvement in communication between Dept of Public Works and Shade Tree Commission
  - a. Can be done in 2014.
    - i. If there are any issues or instances concerning ROW trees with a homeowner and his/her property we should be in contact with Public Works and Community Development.
    - ii. Shade Tree should be notified with any ROW instances.
- 4. Strengthen presence of Shade Tree Commission on community website
  - a. Allow ordinances to be easily accessed on website.
  - b. Link appropriate fact sheets and educational articles to the Township’s website.
- 5. Community Outreach
  - a. Should be continuous over the next 5 years.
  - b. Educate homeowners about the benefits of trees.
    - i. Trees can increase the value of a property.
  - c. Stronger presence in township schools with more programs.
- 6. Hazard Tree Inventory
  - a. Assess the results from last years’ inventory in Quadrant 1 and determine its effectiveness – 2015.
    - i. Determine what has been removed and what has not.
    - ii. Post survey on community website.
  - b. Write a CSIP grant to conduct inventory in Quadrant 2
- 7. Trees removed in the Township ROW should be replanted with new trees.
  - a. Should be accomplished in 2014.

Deleted: .

**Street Tree Replanting Program**

Deleted: ¶

This item was postponed as a topic because it was replaced by the NJ Tree Recovery Campaign this Spring.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kate Maloney  
Secretary