

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

**October 2, 2014**

**OAKHURST, NEW JERSEY**

The Regular Meeting was held in the Turner House Conference Room, Ocean Township Library, 701 Deal Road, Ocean Township, NJ 07712 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

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

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

**Others:** Kate Maloney, Secretary  
Tom Crochet, DPW

**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. July 10, 2014 minutes
2. Agenda
3. Budget – No Updates
4. Correspondence – None

A motion to adopt the July 10, 2014 minutes was made by Laurel Von Gerichten and seconded by Moshe Gordon.

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

## **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

### **Community Forestry Management Plan - Budget**

Tom Crochet provided the members with updated budget figures for the Department of Public Works section of the CFMP. He explained that the figures for Labor and Equipment for Brush Clean-up should be adjusted from \$250,000 and \$100,000 to \$141,000 and \$272,000. The figures for Leaf Clean-up also needed to be amended; changing from \$200,000 for labor and \$100,000 for equipment to \$121,000 and \$180,000 for each. Crochet explained that for Tree Pruning/Tree Planting section, the DPW only prunes trees that are deemed “hazardous” in the Public Right of Way and for any large jobs the work is contracted to non-township businesses. Since most of the tree pruning jobs in the township are large jobs, he advised that the Shade Tree members should combine the total figures for both labor and equipment. He stated that these figures should amount to \$20,000. Members then adjusted the figures for the Shade Tree section; changing the amount for Training from \$500 to \$600; the amounts for Public Education to \$100 from \$75 for Arbor Day programs, \$300 from \$250 for professional lecture fees, and tree seedlings to \$100 from the original \$85. Laurel Von Gerichten made a motion to approve the figures and the plan as a whole and all members voted ‘yes’. Von Gerichten then explained to the members that she would contact Bill Brash to finalize.

### **Revised Tree Sale Plan**

Laurel Von Gerichten explained that she had met with premiere nursery owners and discussed the differences and benefits between bare-root trees and container trees. A nursery owner advised her that there is new technology to avoid ‘circling roots’ for container trees. She explained that chemicals can be placed on the side of the pots that kill the end of the roots when touched. The root then begins to grow in a different direction. The nursery owner also explained to Von Gerichten that bare-root trees need a lot of care and attention and the shipping costs from the nursery in Minnesota for these types cost roughly \$1500 for 300 trees. Von Gerichten then researched local nurseries; finding Fern Brook and Pinelands. She was able to obtain Fern Brook’s price list and availability—they have more choices locally with container trees (sizes small, medium, and large) and pricing is less expensive for the 300. Laurel Von Gerichten then asked the members how the commission should sell the trees to residents and what to do with proceeds. Associate, Ken Lutz, suggested the Shade Tree buy the trees with the Shade Tree Fund, have residents purchase the trees at cost for \$8 or \$9, and the proceeds from the sale should go to the Treasury in order for the Shade Tree to have a larger budget for deer stakes, tree protection/maintenance, etc. The members would come to an agreement at the next meeting.

### **Status of Old Oak Park**

Laruel Von Gerichten stated that Mary Johnson sent out three tree estimate requests to F&F Nurseries, LP Statile, Brock Farms, Landex Nurseries, and Barton Nurseries, but unfortunately, had only received one response. Von Gerichten explained that this project is now being moved from the Fall mainly because of the Fall dig hazard for oaks. With the project postponed to the Spring, the hope is that there will be more opportunity to get more responses and options.

### **Intermediate School Tree Bids**

With only one response from tree nurseries for tree bids, Von Gerichten stated that this project will be moved to the Spring as well. She noted that Barton Nurseries, who did respond, only delivers the trees and does not plant. She asked members if the Shade Tree should ask the township to plant, or to continue to search for a nursery that provides the services that we require. Member, Hank Kliem, suggested that the commission continue to look and document who responds and who does not.

### **Zig Panek – Howell Township C.T.E. Presentation**

Laurel Von Gerichten informed members that Zig Panek, a Certified Tree Expert from Howell Township, would like to come to a Shade Tree meeting and do a presentation about tree hazards. Von Gerichten believes it will be beneficial to hear the procedures and experiences from Howell Township. Member Hank Kliem brought up Ocean Township's own tree hazard survey and questioned if anything was done with it. Tom Crochet stated that the Monmouth County Shade Tree can offer a Certified Tree Expert for professional evaluations on hazardous trees, free of charge. Von Gerichten was interested to see to what extent this offer would hold under requests for different types of evaluations and if this offer would be extended to the Shade Tree. Von Gerichten asked members if this presentation would be a good idea; members agreed it would be. Scheduling the presentation would be discussed at the next meeting.

### **Shade Tree Budget – 2015**

The members reviewed the budget for 2014 in order to finalize the proposed 2015 budget. The following was decided:

Meetings & attendance: \$700  
Outreach Workshops: \$500  
Hazard Tree Inventory: \$3,500  
Memberships-NJ Tree Federation: \$150  
Arbor Day: \$100  
Tree Protection: \$500

Laurel Von Gerichten made a motion to accept the proposed budget. It was seconded by Moshe Gordon.

**Shade Tree Federation Vote**

Members discussed the budget for meeting attendance & mileage for the Shade Tree Federation. They agreed on allotting \$700 for the budget. Von Gerichten made a motion to accept; Moshe Gordon seconded.

**Shade Tree Fund Restrictions**

Laurel Von Gerichten brought up the restrictions regarding the Shade Tree Fund. She explained that the fund can't be used for anything other than tree plantings. She questioned whether the fund could be used for more things such as tree pruning and removal. This matter was tabled for next month's meeting due to time.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kate Maloney  
Secretary