

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

January 8, 2015

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, Colten, Kliem, Johnson
Alternate(s) Gordon, Boyce
Associate(s) Lutz

Absent: Member(s)
Associate(s) Rogoff, Gulick

Others: Kate Maloney, Secretary
Jack Kearns, Resident

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 May 2, 2014.

REVIEW:

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

A motion to adopt the December 4, 2014 minutes was made by Laurel Von Gerichten and seconded by Ray Pogwist.

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

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Tree Inspections

Chairperson Von Gerichten discussed the idea of rotating opportunities among members for township tree inspection requests. Members Johnson, Pogwist, Kliem, Boyce, and Colten volunteered to do the inspections. Von Gerichten suggested that for the first few inspections, members should go in pairs to become more familiar with the process and how to properly inspect the trees.

Tree Sale Plan

Members discussed the ongoing planning for the Tree Sale in the Spring. Von Gerichten gave an overview of the plans to members stating that the trees are to be purchased using the Shade Tree Fund budget and the income from residents purchasing the \$9-\$10 trees would go towards purchasing supplies such as deer protection and fencing. She said that the Pinelands Nursery has responded to a request availability and prices for the trees selected by the Commission for the sale, but they do not have the Swamp White Oak or Bald Cypress species. Members went on to discuss deer protection for the trees and which type would work best. Von Gerichten explained three types of protection: rigid plastic tubes, reusable blue roll up material, or yellow mesh. She stated that she believed the rigid plastic tubes – Tubex is a leading supplier– would be the best type because each tube was ventilated, sturdy (using stakes and zip ties) and was available in different heights while the other options were not as sturdy or dependable. However, members raised concerns over the lower branches that would be closed in around the tube. Von Gerichten stated she would look into the Tubex product as well as contact Pinelands Nursery for any suggestions for protection. Member Johnson volunteered to contact Master Gardeners for suggestions as well. Chairperson Von Gerichten discussed the Tree Sale flyer and how it should explain the benefits to residents (better than going to a retail store, inexpensive, increases the value & appeal of home, & numerous environmental benefits). Member Gordon suggested tying in the Township slogan, “Community of Gracious Living”, with the flyer description as well. Johnson suggested posters be made to increase attention of the sale. Members discussed if this option would be too expensive and time consuming. Gordon will work with the Township to have tree sale flyer, tree list and descriptions, and data collection uploaded to the township website. Member Boyce showed tree planting pamphlets from the International Society of Arborists (ISA) to members and explained she would look into the possibility of purchasing these pamphlets for the sale. Johnson volunteered to contact Rutgers for similar pamphlets as well. Members Pogwist and Gordon will work on advertising for the sale and member Boyce suggested using the Parent Portal for the Township schools to spread the word along with posting to the Township website and social media outlets. Members discussed training for residents during the sale, but due to time this matter was tabled for next meeting.

Logan Road

Tom Crochet, Director of Public Works, updated members on the Holly trees on Logan Road. He explained that while the Township wanted to keep the Holly trees, they would be unable to due to expenses and the location of the trees. The Township would have to completely rip up the curbs in order to relocate the trees which would be too costly to do. He stated that he would look into the possibility of replanting new trees in that location.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kate Maloney
Secretary