

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

March 12, 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, Johnson
Alternate(s) Gordon
Associate(s)

Absent: Member(s) Colten, Kliem
Alternate(s) Boyce
Associate(s) Rogoff, Gulick, Lutz

Others: Kate Maloney, Secretary
Andrew Brannen, Township Manager
Tom Crochet, Director of Public Works

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. February 5, 2015 minutes
2. Agenda
3. Budget – No Updates
4. Correspondence – None

A motion to adopt the February 5, 2015 minutes was made by Ray Pogwist and seconded by Mary Johnson.

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

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Tree Sale

Chairwoman Von Gerichten explained to the members that she had received the final invoice from Fernbrook Nursery for the tree order with the total cost of \$2,082.50. She also stated that she received an invoice for the deer protection equaling \$1,498.78. The members discussed both amounts and were voted on:

In Favor: Von Gerichten, Pogwist, Gordon, Johnson

Opposed: None

Ineligible: Lutz, Rogoff, Gulick

Absent: Colten, Kliem, Boyce

Member Moshe Gordon explained to members that he is still working on the informational packet that will be posted to the township website. The informational packet will have images of each tree species as well as a description in order for residents to choose the best option. Member Mary Johnson shared her proposed flyer with the Commission which detailed the date, time, and location; April 18th at the Township Community Pool on West Park Avenue between 10 am – 12 pm. Gordon suggested that the tree sale flyer be posted to the township website as well as the informational packet. Members discussed advertising options and agreed to have the flyers posted around town and in local newspapers. Township Manager Andrew Brannen suggested the members use the police sign boards to announce the day of the sale. Tom Crochet, Director of Public Works, stated that the tree order will be picked up the Thursday before the sale and organize them by size that Friday. They will either be dropped off at the Community Pool or will be left on the trucks until the day of the sale. He also stated that the trees will be protected by tarps during the transport so there will be little to no damage. Members went on to discuss the possibility of leftover trees. Member Ray Pogwist suggested to have a second sale or to include a sale during the Green Fair in May. Crochet suggested the option to plant them in a designated location and make a makeshift nursery. Township Manager Brannen suggested allowing interested residents who have not pre-paid for a tree to pay on the spot. He suggested for members to speak with the Director of Finance, Steve Gallagher about that possibility.

JCP&L Hazardous Tree Removal

Chairwoman Von Gerichten explained to members the JCP&L Tree Removal Program. She stated that this is a new pilot program in which 7 New Jersey towns are involved. The program aims to replant more appropriate trees in areas in which a tree has been removed due to utility lines. Each town is responsible for sending a list of removed trees to JCP&L and in turn JCP&L will replant trees that will be more suitable to grow under the utility lines. Members expressed interest in the program,

but would wait to see the results from the other towns to see if the program is successful.

CONCERNS:

Old Oak Park & Intermediate School Tree Order

Director of Public Works Tom Crochet explained to members that the Dept. of Public Works will be picking up the tree order for both the Old Oak Park and Intermediate School tree orders. Crochet will contact the Township school to see if someone there; ie groundskeeper or custodial worker, can plant the trees once delivered. If no one can, the DPW will plant.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kate Maloney
Secretary