

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

**June 3, 2021**

**OAKHURST, NEW JERSEY**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** The Regular Meeting was a virtual meeting held on Go To Meeting beginning at 7:00 pm.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Chairperson: Norman Colten  
Member(s): Moshe Gordon, Jack Kearns  
Alternate II(s): Ken Lutz  
Associate(s): Laurel Von Gerichten

Others:

**Absent:** Member(s): Stephen Gaudette, Hank Kliem  
Alternate I (s): Michelle Crosta  
Associate(s): Marc Rogoff, Carolyn Gulick, Michael Davenport, Ed DiFiglia  
  
Liaison: Margie Donlon, Councilwoman

**STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW:**

Norman Colten 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, The Coaster, and News 12 New Jersey and posted in Town Hall and filed in the Office of the Township Clerk on July 31, 2020.

**REVIEW MINUTES**

Motion to approve May's minutes as amended by Member Kearns; seconded by Member Lutz. All were in Favor.

**READING OF AGENDA**

**BUSINESS:**

**BUDGET:**

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION: 2021/2022** Meeting dates were submitted and a motion to approve by Ken Lutz seconded by Jack Kearns. All were in favor.

**UPCOMING MEETING DATES (meeting start time 7:00 PM):**

**JULY 1<sup>ST</sup>, AUGUST 5<sup>TH</sup>, SEPTEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>, OCTOBER 7<sup>TH</sup>, NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>, DECEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>, JANUARY 6<sup>TH</sup>, FEBRUARY 3<sup>RD</sup>, MARCH 3<sup>RD</sup>, APRIL 7<sup>TH</sup>, MAY 5<sup>TH</sup>, JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup>.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None received

**REVISED TREE ORDINANCE:** No update

**STREET TREE CONSIDERATIONS:** No update

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH & PROGRAMS:** None at this time

**COMMUNITY FORESTRY:**

Data is needed from Public Works to complete the 2020 NJ Urban and Community Forestry (NJUCF) Annual Accomplishment Report. Chairperson Colten will contact Mark Disakias, DPW to obtain the data.

A discussion was held related to the 2021 NJUCF 2021 Stewardship Grant. It is the intention of the STC to apply for such a grant. Members were asked for suggestions for uses of grant funding and to possibly join a webinar on grant application preparation to be held on 6/11/2021. The grant application is due on 7/9/2021.

**INVASIVE VINE REMOVAL AT JOE PALAIA PARK:**

The vine removal project with a church group scheduled for the end of May did not take place. Whereas adequate tools for the previous project organized by Environmental Commissioner Mike Davenport had been borrowed from the Monmouth County Parks Department, those tools were no longer available and the effort was cancelled.

**HAZARDOUS TREE EVALUATIONS & PROCESS:**

**189 Ampere Ave:** Conversations to remove the oak tree in question (discussed previously) have solely been with the contractor on behalf of the homeowner. Both Chairperson Colten and Member Kliem are in agreement to deny tree removal and the homeowner can appeal the decision to continue the discussions. There is another tree on the property for which removal permission has been requested. It is, in fact, on the neighboring property with only a few inches on the applicant's property. It was pointed out to the contractor that they have no right to remove that tree.

**333 Park Ave:** Hank Kliem submitted a letter to Chairperson Colten in which he spoke to a resident looking to remove a tree in the ROW. The tree seems to have been in decline for a while now. Recently the town has had to hire a contractor to remove dead limbs from this tree that were a hazard over the roadway. The resident is concerned about the tree and wants to remove it because it obstructs visibility while exiting their driveway. Hank agrees with that assessment and feels it should be removed. Chairperson Colten agrees with the removal of the tree based on Hank Kliem's assessment.

**Library garden:** Associate Von Gerichten distributed a summary with photos, dated August 2019, cataloging the condition of the Library garden. For many years, the Garden Club was maintaining the garden. The Garden Club is no longer involved with the upkeep and the garden needs management. There were discussions related to the possibility of finding an outside contractor and contracting the garden's management out. Also, the possibility was raised of contacting Monmouth County Parks System, who have people to maintain county parks and using shared services as well. A meeting will be scheduled with Mark Disakias, DPW to discuss the upkeep of and responsibility for management and maintenance of the gardens.

**CONCERNS:**

**GENERAL COMMENTS:**

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion was made to adjourn by Member Kearns; seconded by Member Lutz. All were in favor

Respectfully submitted by

Donna Oates, Secretary