

## BOARD OF SHADE TREE & PARKS COMMISSION

### MEETING MINUTES

January 13, 2016

Attendance: W. R. Comery, K. Raschen, J. A. Sexton, C. Hittel, J. Payoczkowski, J. Mawhinney, D. Preis, B. Keppler, J. Warburton, Council Member Garcia, M. Ivanike, D. Minervini, L. Takoshian-314 Darmouth Court, Ken & Lee Holmberg-78 S. Farview Avenue, John Tudor, Architect, & Frank Hanikh-61 Wyoming Road, Karen Vogel-resident

Absent:

K. Raschen called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and stated that this meeting of the Shade Tree & Parks Commission, as required, has been made public and posted at Borough Hall.

K. Raschen requested nominations for secretary.

D. Preis nominated J. Mawhinney, seconded by C. Hittel. 4-0 in favor

K. Raschen requested nominations for chairman.

D. Preis nominated W. R. Comery, seconded by C. Hittel. Secretary casts 1 vote

K. Raschen turns meeting over to W. R. Comery

W. R. Comery requested nominations for vice chairman.

C. Hittel nominated D. Preis for Vice-chairman, seconded by B. Keppler. 4-0 in favor  
J. Warbutron arrived at 7:10 pm

D. Preis moved to accept December 9th Meeting Minutes, seconded by B. Keppler 4-0 in favor  
1 abstain

W. R. Comery welcomed the Council Liaison, Joseph Garcia and introduced the Commissioners.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

#1. **Fall Planting:** We have 20 trees left to plant, 181 planted as of today. Some locations were moved to spring planting due to species. By this Monday we will be done. 54 trees were planted on the highways and nothing is left in the nursery.

#2. **314 Dartmouth Court:** They missed the deadline for payment and a summons will be issued. W. R. Comery wants to know if there was anything said, they had appeared at a Mayor and Council meeting. K. Raschen met with the Mayor and Mr. D'Arco. After it was explained to them, they said to do what we had to do.

#3. **New meetings dates:** Are in your packet.

D. Preis moved to accept the meeting dates for 2016, seconded by B. Keppler.  
5-0 in favor

#4. **Re-organization meeting:** February will be ½ hour earlier than usual at 7:00 p.m.

#5. **238 Bogert Place:** J. Sexton checked the trees. All trees look to be good and he recommends release of the bond.

D. Preis moves to release bond, seconded by C. Hittel.  
5-0 in favor

#6. **854 Wendy Ann Court:** Gloria Mele has a large Ash on property and says it is leaning and raising her paver driveway. K. Raschen said that the tree looks fine. The pavers are uneven but no roots are near. It was put in 5 years ago. She fears for her life and she wants us to fix the driveway. It is a live healthy tree. The whole street is on the list to be pruned.

D. Preis moved that we leave tree, seconded by B. Keppler.  
5-0 in favor

#7. B. Keppler moved to authorize payment of bills, seconded by D. Preis.  
5-0 in favor

**ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

#1. **CSIP Grant:** This is for pruning after Sandy with two fertilizations and trimming. J. Sexton has updated his report. He has a copy for W. R. Comery to review. The contractor has started and done 25-30 trees. They started just after Christmas. K. Raschen wants to be told where they are so they can be checked. Olmstead is doing approximately 150 trees. We have to match with in kind services.

#2. **Almighty Tree:** Last month they had failed to make their payment. After the deadline, they came in and paid. They have already made the third payment.

#3. **CFMP Update:** We are coming up with our 4<sup>th</sup> management plan. P. Cowie requested data from back to 1999, which we supplied. The Community Forestry Management Plan is what gives the Commission and the governing body immunity from liability.

#4. J. Sexton had a meeting with the Borough Attorney. They discussed:

- a. **Imprelis:** Imprelis was a herbicide that was applied to grass and turned out to kill the trees. We applied for reimbursement and have not received anything. It went to arbitration and the arbitrator decided that we should get paid. Dupont sent paperwork to Justin Santagata. W. R. Comery wanted to know how much. J. Sexton didn't know.
- b. **266 Farview Avenue:** J. Sexton and the attorney discussed the gas leak that is killing the tree at this location. More to follow.
- c. **809 Alden Road:** Homeowner does not want to repair sidewalk. Borough Attorney put him on notice that he will be liable. W. R. Comery explained the sidewalk to the two new commissioners. The tree roots need to be trimmed properly.

#5. **ACRT Training:** This is a course that the tree climbers are given for working around secondary lines. We will be doing it at Downes in Hawthorne. We have four men going, two for recertification and two for new certification.

#6. **CPR Training:** The tree crew also has to have CPR Training to go with the ACRT Training. This will be for five employees for a total for both of about \$1940.00. W. R. Comery would like CPR opened up to any employee that wants it.

D. Preis moved to have ACRT Training for crew, seconded by J. Warburton 6-0 in favor

J. Warbutron moves to have CPR training for employees, seconded by B. Keppler 6-0 in favor

J. Payoczkowski suggested that we get in touch with the MEL institute to conduct the CPR Training right here.

**GENERAL:** Nothing

**INSURANCE CLAIMS:** Nothing

**LAND USE AND ZONING:** Nothing

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

#1. **CSIP:** Covered

#2. **Imprelis:** Covered

#3. **Spring Valley and Brookfield:** The attorney is looking into this.

#4. **Heritage Tree:** These would be tree of a unique species, size or location. There are some towns that you cannot remove a heritage tree, even on private property. W. R. Comery would like to do a policy and add it to the Shade Tree Ordinance.

#5. **PSE&G:** there is a meeting with PS a week from tomorrow to explain what they can do.

**OLD BUSINESS** none

**NEW BUSINESS**

J. Payoczkowski would like to know if we could get some new barrels. Maybe with a grant through G. Picone, 60-70 nice ones for the parks. He also welcomed the new Commissioners.

J. Mawhinney to send out notice for the February meeting to start at 7:00 p.m.

**PERSONNEL**

We had one termination and one resignation.

D. Preis moved to adjourn meeting at 9:15 p.m., seconded by J. Warburton

6-0 in favor

Respectfully submitted by,



Jill Mawhinney  
Secretary