

**BOARD OF SHADE TREE & PARKS COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES**

**SEPTEMBER 14, 2016**

Present: W.R. Comery, J.A. Sexton, D. Preis, J. D'Arco, B. Keppler, C. Hittel, J. Payoczkowski, K. Grady, M. Ivanicki, D. Minervini, K. Raschen, J. Warburton, Eugene Sinitsyn, 143 Thomas Drive; George Mashouris, 356 South Terhune Ave; Mr. & Mrs. Burger, 388 Abbott Road; Mr. Tuchin, 466 Mason Place; Mr. & Mrs. Jacovino, 611 Roosevelt Blvd; Florence Goham, 170 Morningside Road; Joseph Lebovich, 144 Fairway Terrace.

Absent: S. Sullivan, J. Garcia

W. R. Comery called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. and stated that this meeting of the Shade Tree & Parks Commission, as required, has been made public and posted at Borough Hall.

D. Preis moved to accept July 27, 2016 Meeting Minutes, seconded by B. Keppler 6-0 in favor

W. R. Comery stated that the Commission would take care of the residents present first.

143 Thomas Drive: Eugene Sinitsyn would still like the Commission to dismiss his Notice of Violation for trimming a town tree. K. Raschen went to check the tree and still upholds the statement that there is corrective work required, regardless of who cut the tree. E. Sinitsyn believes he provided enough evidence that he was not home when it was cut and he should not have to pay. WRC said the branch structure must be corrected and that \$1,290.00 was for corrective fees. K. Raschen will issue the summons and the homeowner can go to court and have a judge decide.

C. Hittel motioned to continue moving forward with summons, seconded by D. Preis. 6-0 in favor

E. Sinitsyn left at 7:53 pm

356 South Terhune Ave: George Mashouris does not want a replacement tree after the tree was damaged and removed. WRC explained that the policy is to replace any tree that comes down and the tree fell most likely due to an act of God, not disease, etc. G. Mashouris claims that if he puts an addition on his house in the future, the tree preservation deposit is holding up his money in escrow and he doesn't want to pay. WRC stated it is Commission policy and the new tree will be replanted. The new tree won't cause damage and that if the homeowner wants a list of every tree replanted and WRC advised homeowner that he needs to OPRA it.

G. Mashouris left at 8:04 pm

388 Abbott Road: Mr. & Mrs. Burger are disputing the "3 year date" for the release of their bond. They were not told that they would get their money back 3 years from the date they got the CO, but rather from the demo as they thought. As of August, it was 3 years from the date of their demo so they requested their money back. J. Sexton said even though it has not been 3 years from the date of the CO, the Sycamores there are alive and healthy.

J. Warburton motioned to release the bond, seconded by D. Preis 6-0 in favor

Mr. & Mrs. Burger left at 8:08 pm

466 Mason Place: Mr. Tuchin got a Notice of Violation for \$700.00 because K. Raschen noticed the newly planted tree on his property was missing. Mr. Tuchin explained that the tree was dead and he thought it was the right thing to do so he didn't have to bother anyone in the Borough. The tree was planted in the fall of 2015 and removed in the summer of 2016 so it was a small tree.

D. Preis motioned to replace the tree with no cost to Mr. Tuchin, seconded by J. Warburton 6-0 in favor

Mr. Tuchin left at 8:12 pm

611 Roosevelt Blvd: Mr. & Mrs. Jacovino asked if there could be a tree removed on their property so they can install poles with a light on them because Mr. Jacovino suffers from degeneration of his eyes and the lights will help him see. WRC said as per policy we do not remove live, healthy trees but we will take everything into consideration. Mr. & Mrs. Jacovino stated that PSEG made cuts to the roots of a tree to put a gas line in and they fear that it caused significant damage to the tree. If PSEG does kill the tree, they will be responsible for the restitution if it has to come down. K. Raschen will go out to access the damage. If there is no damage from PSEG, we will see what we can do with the lights.

Mr. & Mrs. Jacovino left at 8:23 pm

J. D'Arco arrived at 8:26 pm

170 Morningside Road: Florence Goham is saying she has been on the root list for 5 years and she is tired of waiting. WRC explained we have reinstated root program and we will be doing the oldest addresses on the list first. What doesn't get done in the fall will be done in the spring. K. Grady will double check list and let her know if she will be done in the fall.

F. Goham left at 8:29 pm

144 Fairway Terrace: Joseph Lebovich said the Borough tree is in the way of his approved driveway that he wants to put in. The Board of Adjustment approved his new circular driveway and he wants to remove the tree if possible. WRC advised J. Lebovich he can have an approved contractor move the tree or he has to pay for a new one which would be the same amount as the worth of his current tree which is \$1,500.00. If the tree is moved, it has to be at least 35-50 feet from the other town trees. J. Lebovich measured where the tree in question is and doesn't believe it is a town tree but K. Raschen will go out and re-measure and if any part of the tree is within 10 feet, it is a town tree. K. Raschen will advise.

J. Lebovich left at 8:42 pm

### **ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT**

#1. Sustainable Jersey: We received a successful review of what we submitted and we will be moving forward with it. Environmental Commission should be more involved which will be discussed more at the next Commission meeting.

#2. No Net Loss Grant: The plan has been submitted to the state. 816 trees are to be planted along with 100 stumps to pull, 58 stumps to grind, 314 trees to be removed and 53 county trees. We need the County's assistance in this.

J. Warburton motioned to write a letter to the County for assistance, seconded by D. Preis 6-0 in favor

#3. CSIP Grant: The invoice/voucher was received and it has been resolved with the contractor. We will send it to the state and next month it should be done.

#4. Paramus Run: The Paramus Run organization would like to use our garage for bag stuffing.

D. Preis motioned to give access to the garage for bag stuffing, seconded by J. Warburton 6-0 in favor

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

#1. 143 Thomas Drive: discussed.

#2. 356 South Terhune Ave: discussed.

#3. 128 Village Circle East: K. Raschen checked and the tree is alive and healthy to release the bond.

D. Minervini motioned to release the bond, seconded by J. Warburton 6-0 in favor

#4. 388 Abbott Road: discussed.

#5. 447 Lincoln Drive: Homeowner is requesting a Dogwood to be planted as his new town tree. WRC stated that a Dogwood is not on the list of approved Borough trees.

D. Preis motioned to deny the request for a Dogwood, seconded by J. Warburton 6-0 in favor

#6. Imprelis: We have received a check from DuPont. J. D'Arco stated that the check was put into the General Trust Account and K. Raschen can go speak to Sheri in Finance if he needs further information regarding where in the Trust Account it is, etc.

#7. 185 Mayfair Road: J. Sexton checked and the tree is alive and healthy to release the bond.

D. Preis motioned to release the bond, seconded by J. Warburton 6-0 in favor

#8. 164 Village Circle West: K. Raschen was approached by the homeowner regarding starting the process of lifting the lien placed upon the house in December 2016. Because the legal process may take a while, K. Raschen advised Commission that we should be proactive to start the legal process now for this. WRC advised there is a Norway Maple in decline on the property but it is not construction related. D. Minervini motioned to begin legal process to lift lien, seconded by D. Preis 6-0 in favor

#9. Mitsubishi Dealership: D.Minervini to recuse himself from this discussion and abstain if there happens to be a vote. K. Raschen witnessed Cousins Tree Service illegally trimming town trees at the Mitsubishi Dealership. Employee of Cousins Tree Service advised him that All American Ford bought the location and hired him to do the trimming. K. Raschen issued summons with the date of 9/6/16 but nobody has responded to summons yet. There are \$2,140.00 in damages and K. Raschen said as a courtesy, he will send them a letter and then reissue a summons answerable within 10 days to make restitution.

#10. 466 Mason Place: discussed.

#11. Resignation: K. Grady will be resigning from Secretary and Board Secretary as of 9/19/16. J. D'Arco advised that a part-time staff member will be placed in the Shade Tree office starting Monday 9/19/16. WRC advised the Commission of K. Grady's hours to be approved for payment. D. Preis motioned to approve Board Secretary hours, seconded by J. Warburton 6-0 in favor

#12. Roots: J. D'Arco advised K. Raschen to write up root information for the October newsletter that will go out. The root program is scheduled to begin again in the next few weeks.

#13. Sidewalk update: We can negotiate with contractors now and on 9/20/16 a contract will be awarded with a 2 year option for the bid. They will be given 2018 contract as well if they perform well. WRC mentioned that it should be done quarterly, starting in January and ending in April, etc. J. D'Arco said that decision is up to Shade Tree.

#14. Authorization to pay bills: D. Preis moved, seconded by B. Keppler 6-0 in favor

## **AGENDA**

General: Nothing

Insurance: MVA on Allen Drive: the insurance company (Esurance) called and spoke to K. Raschen regarding this insurance claim. He would like for us to waive the administration fees and then they will pay us. K. Raschen will waive the fees and negotiate an amount they will pay for the tree and labor only. We will then accept it.

D. Preis motioned to negotiate and then accept the offer, seconded by J. Warburton 6-0 in favor

Land Use: Nothing

SW: The contract will be awarded 9/20/16

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Nothing.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Nothing.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Nothing.

D. Preis moves to close meeting, seconded J. Warburton at 9:48 pm 6-0 in favor

Respectfully submitted by,

Kimberly Grady  
Board Secretary