

**SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 11, 2009**

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance: K.Clark, L.Ferguson, K.Halpin, P.Huizenga, L.Starita

Absent: 0 Absent

**MINUTES:**

**Regular Meeting**

The Washington Borough Shade Tree Commission Meeting was called to order and the "Open Public Meetings Act" read into the Record. The meeting was duly advertised and posted on the Bulletin Board for Wednesday, February 11, 2009. A Motion was made by K. Halpin and seconded by L. Ferguson that the minutes be approved with no corrections for the meeting of January 7, 2009.

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

1. Community Forestry Status Report 2008 (End Year) - 8 CEUs earned in 2008

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. JML Landscaping- Planting of Phase II was completed for the Cool Communities Grant. Invoice CLIP4759 was paid \$12,320.00 on check #1876. Grants Coordinator, Joseph Bennett will begin tree planting inspections on the first or second week of April.
2. 54 Alvin Sloan Ave.- L. Starita informed the homeowners about the Borough's Ordinance to contact the Shade Tree Commission regarding R.O.W. trees. Two trees were replaced on their corner property. Location A is a Red Plum and Location B is a White Birch. The inventory list will be updated with these species for future reference.  
L. Starita also commented that there were "volcanoes" around these new plantings. The homeowner was informed about the correct approach to mulching around the trees. Door hangers were disbursed to all Commissioners so they are available to inform the public regarding proper mulching procedures.
3. 2009 Green Communities Grant- The Commission received a response from Paul Cowie & Associates to update the Community Forestry Management Plan. Their \$4,000 quote exceeded the grant's \$3,000 allowance.  
Due to budgetary constraints, a motion was made by K. Halpin and seconded by

L. Starita to send Paul Cowie & Associates another request to revise their proposal so it would not exceed the \$3,000.00 grant award.

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

In the event that Paul Cowie is not able to comply with the \$3,000.00 fee, a motion was made by L. Starita and seconded by K. Clark to contact another consultant, Lorraine Konopka in Parsippany. Ms. Konopka was also on the recommended list provided by the NJ Division of Parks & Forestry.

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

4. 64 Grand Avenue- Owners (Kenneth & Pat Chambers) request for a tree removal was granted. Peterson & Sons removed the tree and the stump at the Shade Tree Commission's request. They also removed the fallen limbs from 36 Grand Ave. that were placed at the curb by the homeowner.
5. 36 Grand Avenue- Owners (Daniel & Paula Aron) reported fallen limbs on 2 separate dates. Jeremy Summitt will be contacted to evaluate the 2 R.O.W. trees on the corner property.
6. CORE Training- L. Ferguson and K. Clark will be attending the training sessions in Paramus, NJ on February 28, 2009.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. 2008 Annual Accomplishment Report- K. Halpin will be preparing this form to send to the NJ Forestry Service by the February 17<sup>th</sup> deadline. P. Huizenga will provide pictures of the annual Arbor Day planting to accompany K. Halpin's report. The 60 new trees from the Cool Communities Grant will also be documented.
2. Council Appearance- The Shade Tree Commission will have their annual meeting with Borough Council on April 7, 2009.
3. 2009 Proposed Budget- The Shade Tree Commission's Tree Maintenance line item has been reduced by 5%. Depending on the Council's approval of the entire Municipal 2009 Budget, there may be additional revisions.
4. NJ Forestry Association Inc.- K. Halpin received a membership application to join the NJFA. Individual memberships are \$40.00 which includes newsletters, announcements of tours, conferences, annual meetings and notices of important forestry issues.  
K. Clark offered to research the Association before the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Commission will then decide if the membership will benefit the needs of our community.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Hearing no further business before the Commission, it was moved by L. Starita and seconded by K. Clark that the meeting be adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Fleming