

SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
April 14, 2010

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

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

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, April 14, 2010. A Motion was made by L. Starita and seconded by P. Huizenga that the minutes be approved for the meeting of March 10, 2010.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Grant Application Requirements & Questionnaire was provided by the Grants Committee Chairperson, Jeanine Gleba. K. Halpin questioned the projected 8 weeks to complete the grant application process. This length of time could result in a lost opportunity to meet a grant's initial timeline. Also, the Grants Committee did not point out the "in kind" dollars that are documented during the application process.

The Grant Committee's Requirements will be filed for future reference.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Arbor Day- A Proclamation was approved at the March 16th Council Meeting and signed by Mayor Scott McDonald. Councilman, John Valentine will be reading the Proclamation at the Taylor Street School Ceremony in order to commemorate Arbor Day. After a brief presentation, tree seedlings will be distributed to the Kindergarten classes by K. Halpin and Mr. Valentine. Pat Huizenga will contact the Warren Reporter and The Express Times to cover the event.
2. 98 Youmans Avenue- Homeowner (Pasquale Giovannone) submitted a letter to the Commission regarding property damage when his r.o.w. tree was removed by a professional tree service. Sunshine Tree & Landscape has contacted the owner and is in the process of replacing the damaged stones caused during the tree removal. The stump was not removed due to the rock wall that surrounded the Norway Maple. The weight of the Landscaping equipment would have caused greater damage to the location.

3. 2009 Business Stimulus Fund- The following services sent quotes for the Washington Borough Park Maintenance Project:

Sunshine Tree and Landscape, LLC
Peterson & Sons Tree Service, Inc.
Action Tree Service, Inc.
Silva Guard Tree Experts & Plant Specialists

After reviewing the submitted quotes, the Commissioners agreed that they needed more time before voting on this issue. It was decided to arrange a special meeting on April 21, 2010 at 7:00 pm to finalize this step in the Grant process.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 2010 Budget Meeting- L. Starita and K. Halpin attended the budget meeting with the Mayor and Council.
2. 13 Grand Avenue- Homeowner (Joseph Karslo) reported fallen limbs from his Red Maple. This tree was overlooked when Grand Avenue was evaluated by Sunshine Tree and Landscape last Fall. Sunshine was contacted and they pruned the deadwood from this r.o.w. tree at no additional charge to the Borough. They suggested that the tree be removed in the near future due to its declining state. There will be no action taken at this time but this tree will be added to the removal list for 2010.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business before the Commission, it was moved by L. Starita and seconded by P. Huizenga that the meeting be adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Fleming