

**SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 8, 2013**

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

Members in Attendance: K. Halpin, G. Pohorely, S. Marr
Absent: L. Ferguson

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 Monday, April 8, 2013. A Motion was made by G. Pohorely and seconded by S. Marr that the minutes be approved for the meeting of February 11, 2013.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

COMMUNICATIONS:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Green Communities Grant - The New Jersey State Forestry Services has awarded the Shade Tree Commission \$3,000.00. The signed grant agreement and resolution was mailed to Trenton on March 22, 2013. Once the grant agreement is countersigned and returned, the Community Forestry Management Plan updating process can begin.
2. Arbor Day Preparations- This year’s Arbor Day Acknowledgement will be held on April 29th at the Taylor Street Elementary School. Shade Tree Commissioner, S. Marr is organizing the event. Washington Borough Mayor, Scott McDonald will be invited to attend and read the annual Proclamation to the students.
3. 92 Carlton Avenue & 75 Grand Avenue - The stumps left from the October 29th storm were removed by Sunshine Tree & Landscape on March 7, 2013. This expenditure did not come out of the Shade Tree Commission’s budget.
4. Business District Damaged Tree - A tree in the downtown business area was hit by a vehicle which left the scene without an accident report. K. Halpin evaluated the location and determined that the tree is not dead but needs to be watered regularly. It was suggested that the store owner at the location (Pandora’s Box) keep the tree nurtured through the Spring and Summer months. K. Halpin will recommend that idea to the store owner.
5. 36 Grand Avenue – Homeowner (Daniel Aron) requested to have a Maple Tree removed from the side of his corner property. K. Halpin suggested that the tree be evaluated after the foliage is out in order to determine the condition. Since it is not considered a public hazard, the issue will be discussed again at the May meeting.

6. Memorial School Tree Replacement – The Oak Tree that died after last April’s Arbor Day planting is scheduled to be replaced this month. G. Pohorely will contact the owner of Three Brothers Nursery to confirm this action.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. CSIP Grant- The Community Stewardship Incentive Program Grant should be available in 2013. There has not been any information at this time. However, the Shade Tree Commission will inquire about the application prior to the May 13th meeting.
2. Recreation Department Tree Donations – Recreation Chairman, Victor Cioni arranged to have 75 seedlings sent to Washington Borough for future plantings. The Borough Manager, Kristine Blanchard approved to have the seedlings enclosed in the area by the new DPW facility. Inexpensive wire fencing will be needed to protect the seedlings from deer. The Commission was informed that the trees should be delivered at the end of April. The maintenance of this designated area will be discussed with Mr. Cioni.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business before the Commission, it was moved by G. Pohorely and seconded by S. Marr that the meeting be adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Fleming