

SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
September 16, 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, September 16, 2013. A Motion was made by G. Pohorely and seconded by S. Marr that the amended minutes be approved for the meeting of July 22, 2013.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Bartlett Tree Experts provided a tree and shrub care proposal. The Commissioners decided not to pursue this recommendation, due to limited funding.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Green Communities Grant – Paul Cowie, the consultant who will update the Shade Tree Commission’s Community Forestry Management Plan is available to attend the October meeting. However, the October meeting needs to be changed to October 9th in order work around everyone’s schedule. The Commission reviewed the checklist that Paul Cowie suggested. Some topics included the experiences that occurred during the first and second five-year CFMP’s.
2. Inventory List Review-The Commission agreed to continue working on the town tree inventory assessment. G. Pohorely commented that there were species on the inventory list that were questionable in his section of town. K. Halpin stated that Paul Cowie may offer some advice on the tree inventory inconsistencies. This topic will be discussed at the October 9th meeting.
3. Sunshine Tree and Landscape- The (10) tree removals with stumps and (1) tree trim were completed at the following locations:

25 School Street - Removal
56 E. Church Street - Removal
48 E. Church Street - Removal

90 Carlton Avenue - Removal
304-306 North Prospect Street- Removal
160 Van Buren Street - Removal
Dead tree diagonally across from 160 Van Buren Street- Removal
3 Oakwood Terrace - Removal
112 Sunrise Terrace - Removal
9 Grand Avenue - Removal
74 Flower Avenue – Trim only

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 44 School Street- Property Owner (Doris Romanowitch) requested 3 trees in the r.o.w. be evaluated. This is a corner property that also borders on East Church Street. K. Halpin and S. Marr visited the location and measured the r.o.w. for the (3) trees. All three trees are in the Borough's right-of-way jurisdiction. K. Halpin agreed that the trees need trimming. The condition of the trees is not a potential hazard and no immediate action is necessary. A letter will be sent to the property owner stating that it will be added to the maintenance list for a later time.
2. 12 Oak Ridge Road – Property Owner (Tamara Rivera) requested a tree that was planted by the Borough be moved or removed since it is growing into the power lines. The NJ American Water Company also advised her to have the tree moved since it is too close to the water lines. K. Halpin will contact a NJ American Water representative to get their perspective on this issue. No action will be taken at this time.
3. 25 School Street- Property Owner (Susan Cicala) requested to have a tree evaluated for a possible removal. The tree is located between 21 and 25 School Street. K. Halpin visited the location and recommended that this address be added to the maintenance list for a professional evaluation. A letter will be sent to the property owner stating this development.
4. 165 Broad Street- A large fallen limb was reported to be obstructing the sidewalk. The owners have hired a professional tree service for trimming. The limb was gone the next day and any remaining debris was cleared from the sidewalk. No action will be taken at this time.
5. 10 Ridge Top Terrace – Property owner reported some fallen limbs from a recent storm. The owner inquired about the removal of the debris. S. Marr visited the location and noted that the debris was by the homeowner's garage. The owner was advised to bring the fallen limbs to the edge of the property and the DPW would pick them up.
6. 155 Sunrise Terrace – Property owner reported fallen limbs from a recent storm and requested that they be removed. S. Marr visited the location and confirmed that the limbs were from a r.o.w. tree that needed trimming. The DPW removed the debris that was brought to the edge of the property.
7. New Jersey Shade Tree Federation Annual Conference – G. Pohorely and S. Marr will be attending the October 26th conference in Cherry Hill. Annual attendance is required to receive the necessary CEU's under the NJ Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act.

8. Trees Elevated - A recent request to have trees trimmed along Belvidere Avenue prompted K. Halpin to suggest tree elevating on specific streets. Quotes will be sent out for 3 street locations, requesting an itemized price per street.

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