

**SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 14, 2016**

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

Members in Attendance: K. Halpin, G. Pohorely, S. Marr
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 Monday, March 14, 2016. A Motion was made by G. Pohorely and seconded by S. Marr that the minutes be approved for the meeting of February 8, 2016.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Arbor Day Pamphlet: March/April 2016 will be filed for future reference
2. Tree City USA Bulletin #16: How To Recycle Tree Materials, will be filed for future reference.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Action Tree Service – Maintenance at the following locations has been completed. 35 Youmans Ave., 262 West Warren St., and 25 North Pickel Ave. had a total of 5 tree removals and stump grindings. The homeowner at 25 N. Pickel Ave. (Karen Burke) requested assistance to remove the excess stump grindings at the location. The homeowner used some of the surplus, but G. Pohorely was able to transport most of the additional chips to a desirable location in the Borough.
2. 25 School Street – Homeowner inquired about the status of a tree removal that they requested last year. The Commissioners discussed the condition of the tree and unanimously agreed to have it removed when the full 2016 budget is approved and available to the Shade Tree Commission. However, the owner must be notified that a sapling near the declining tree is recommended to be removed. It is growing in the right-of-way and will eventually be a concern. A letter will be sent to the homeowners stating that tree will be removed in 2016.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Continuing Education Units – The New Jersey State Forest Service sent a list of various workshops to attend for CEU opportunities. The annual requirement (8 CEU's), have been attained in the past, during the Shade Tree Federation conference. S. Marr participated in a recent webinar entitled “Monitoring Urban Trees: Survival, Growth and Energy-Saving Performance”. This event offered 1 CEU for S. Marr's attendance. There was no registration fee for this webinar.
2. Community Stewardship Incentive Program Grant Application – Upon reviewing the State Grant application, G. Pohorely noted that the guidelines require the implementation of a tree planting and maintenance plan. Although the Commission is trying to develop a tree maintenance schedule throughout the town, there is also a need to replace trees. G. Pohorely will start the application and will provide additional information at the April meeting. The application deadline is April 15, 2016.
3. 25 Presidential Avenue - Homeowner (Roy Silverthorn) intends to remove a tree from his front yard and needed confirmation regarding the right-of-way area. S. Marr visited the location and did not see any issue for the homeowner. The right-of-way area is clear of any town trees. The homeowner will be notified that he is responsible for any maintenance for the tree on his property.
4. 253 Carlton Avenue – Property owner (Charles Carroll) has sewer pipe issues due to the roots of a Norway Maple. The tree is located on the border of 253 Carlton Avenue and the side property of the adjacent neighbor, which faces onto 129 McDonald Street. Mr. Carroll had to hire a service to clear the obstructions several times over the years. K. Halpin recommended that the tree be removed. She will talk to the owners about this development. The address will be placed on the 2016 maintenance list.

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 7:45 p.m.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Fleming