

SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 14, 2011

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

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

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, February 14, 2011. A Motion was made by K. Halpin and seconded by L. Ferguson that the minutes be approved for the meeting of January 10, 2011.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Notification that the Grant Committee is being disbanded. Grants Committee Chairperson, Councilwoman Jeanine Gleba notified all Department Heads, Boards and Commissions that the Grant Process will revert back to contacting the Manager in the initial stages. The Shade Tree Commission reviewed the entire memo and it will be added to the Commission's files for future reference.
2. Dept. of Agriculture Survey- The State Survey Coordinator requested the Borough's permission to hang (EAB) traps on Ash Trees. These traps would be hung on Ash Trees located in the r.o.w. areas throughout town. The traps are nontoxic and will be placed May through August. The Emerald Ash Borer is an invasive insect that has been detected in NY and Pennsylvania.
3. Tree City USA Bulletin: #11 "How to Prevent Tree/Sign Conflicts"- This pamphlet will be scanned and added to the Shade Tree Commission's website for reference.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. 2010 Annual Accomplishment Report- K. Halpin prepared the annual report and was submitted prior to the February 15th deadline. A copy was added to the Commission's files for reference.
2. Washington Borough Website- L. Starita will scan relevant information for the newly expanded Shade Tree Commission's webpage. This will be a continuing process, since updated information should be available to the public.
3. Bartlett Tree Experts- The downtown business district tree maintenance was partially done. Bartlett Tree Experts completed the pruning of 44 Golden Rain and 25 Callery Pear Trees along Washington Avenue. The trimming was done to promote development and remove dead and broken branches. Any debris from this process was removed. Bartlett will provide 1 fertilization treatment early in 2011.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. CORE Training- Scheduled on April 2, 2011 in Paramus, NJ. The Commission requires a municipal employee to be CORE trained. Our municipal representative has recently retired, which leaves a vacancy to fill. K. Halpin will contact Assistant Regional Forester, Todd Wyckoff to consider a candidate that is not a Borough employee.
2. Community Forestry Management Plan-The Shade Tree Commission plans to establish a trimming schedule that would complete the town within a 5 year period. The Shade Tree Ordinances also need to be updated to meet current principles and penalties.
3. Covanta Tree Donations- L. Starita will explore possible tree donations sponsored by Covanta and report his results at the next Shade Tree Commission meeting on March 14th.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Ayes: 3, Nay
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Fleming