

**SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**April 11, 2011**

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

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

**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 11, 2011. A Motion was made by K. Halpin and seconded by L. Ferguson that the minutes be approved for the meeting of March 14, 2011.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

New Jersey Forest Service order form for Arbor Day tube-seedlings. One tray containing 98 seedlings will cost \$20.00.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. West Washington Avenue- A traffic accident on February 27<sup>th</sup> had damaged a tree in the downtown business district. JML Landscaping submitted a written quote for \$650.00 to replace the Cleveland Pear Tree. This quote will be forwarded to the driver that caused the accident along with a letter from the Borough Manager requesting a monetary reimbursement for damaging Borough property.
2. Arbor Day- K. Halpin will be organizing the event to commemorate Arbor Day. The date is scheduled for Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at Taylor Street School. A Proclamation will be prepared and read by Mayor Scott McDonald. A Motion was made by K. Halpin and seconded by L. Starita to purchase 1 tray of seedlings to be distributed among the kindergarten students during the Arbor Day celebration.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

3. 2011 Grant Opportunities- Joseph Bennett, Assistant Regional Forester/Grants Administrator was contacted to determine if there were any current grants available. Unfortunately there are no new grant announcements at this time. Mr. Bennett commented that there would be news after July 1<sup>st</sup>.

4. Downtown Tree Maintenance- Bartlett Tree Experts fertilized the Golden Rain and Cleveland Pear Trees in the downtown business district. This process will help promote growth and vitality. The work was completed on March 9<sup>th</sup> and Bartlett was paid with the remaining funds from the 2010 Shade Tree Commission budget.
5. 2009 Business Stimulus Fund Grant- The State Forest Service sent the reimbursement check in the amount of \$7,000.00 for Washington Borough's grant project. This grant program was developed to assist counties, municipalities and non-profit organizations in developing their own unique community forestry projects. The grant award will be used to pay Sunshine Tree & Landscape for removing 1 tree and trimming 17 others at the Washington Borough Park. They also applied deep root fertilization on specific trees to provide essential nutrients in maintaining their health and vitality.
6. Covanta Tree Donations- L. Starita was not able to contact an individual involved with the tree donations. He will follow up with this offer and report any findings at the May 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. 30 West Stewart Street- The property owner (John Maquire) reported a declining tree between the sidewalk and the street. The Commissioners viewed the tree and determined that it was healthy but needed to be trimmed. A letter will be sent to the owners to notify them that the tree will be added to the 2011 maintenance list.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Hearing no further business before the Commission, it was moved by L. Starita and seconded by L. Ferguson that the meeting be adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Fleming