

SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
September 12, 2011

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

Members in Attendance: L. Starita, K. Halpin,
Absent: L. Ferguson, 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, September 12, 2011. A Motion was made by K. Halpin and seconded by L. Starita that the minutes be approved for the meeting of October 10, 2011.

Ayes: 2, Nays: 0

COMMUNICATIONS:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Covanta Tree Donations- Sufficient information was not available. There will be no further contact with Covanta at this time.
2. Update the Shade Tree Commission Ordinances for the Borough Council- Updating the ordinances is still a work in progress. A rough draft will be prepared for the October 10th Shade Tree Meeting to complete the final revisions.
3. Sunshine Tree & Landscape scheduled removals- The Commission does not have a tentative date for the removal of 3 trees and 6 stumps listed on Purchase Order #11-00806. K. Halpin will contact Jeff Berenzy from Sunshine Tree & Landscape to determine an approximate date for this job. The homeowners at the removal locations, received written notification that Sunshine Tree & Landscape is assigned to complete this work.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 108 Harding Drive- (Homeowners Mr. & Mrs. Paul Jones) articulated their concerns at the September 12th Shade Tree meeting. They inquired about the homeowners' responsibility when the roots of a r.o.w. tree damaged their sidewalk. The Jones would like to remove the tree without any repercussion from the town. L. Starita suggested installing a semi-circular sidewalk to curve around the base of the tree.

This has been successful in other areas in town that had a similar issue. K. Halpin stated that she would contact Jeremy Summitt to evaluate the Norway Maple. Mr. Summitt is a local tree expert that could offer alternative ideas to the homeowners. In the meantime, the Jones were informed that they are responsible for repairing any damaged sidewalk along the perimeter of their property.

2. Hurricane Damage in Washington- The following locations needed attention after the storm on August 27th. The Shade Tree Commission did not have to contact a professional tree service to trim or remove any of the debris. The DPW was instrumental in clearing fallen limbs and branches out of the roadways and specific locations.

210 W. Stewart Street
8 Nunn Avenue
8 Lambert Street
258 W. Warren Street

3. New Jersey Shade Tree Federation Annual Conference- K. Halpin and L. Ferguson will be attending the conference on October 22 to receive the necessary CEU requirements. Washington Borough Code Enforcement Officer, Mike Stone will be attending the CORE Training courses scheduled on October 21st at the conference.

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: 2, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Fleming