

SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 9, 2012

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

Members in Attendance: K. Halpin, L. Ferguson, G. Pohorely
Absent: S. Marr

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, July 9, 2012. A Motion was made by K. Halpin and seconded by L. Ferguson that the minutes be approved for the meeting of May 14, 2012.

Ayes: 2, Nays: 0 Abstain: 1
Motion Carried

COMMUNICATIONS:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Arbor Day- The acknowledgement took place on May 22, 2012 at Memorial School. K. Halpin was accompanied by Mayor Scott McDonald, who read the Arbor Day Proclamation to the students. There was a discussion about the importance of trees, including a comparison to the recent movie, The Lorax. Two students also read poems for the program. Peter Grzesiowski from BASF attended the ceremony. His company was instrumental in assisting the Shade Tree Commission with the purchase of a White Oak tree. The tree was planted on the front lawn of Memorial School on April 19th.
2. Replacement of (2) Koelreuteria paniculata in the downtown business district-The Plant Farm has not notified the Commission when the replacement trees will be planted. Both trees had to be order from another location.
3. Bartlett Tree Experts- K. Halpin will inquire about possible shared expenses with the BID for the soil management application in the trees downtown.
4. Sidewalk damage along Carlton Avenue- Borough Manager, Kristine Blanchard will discuss the issue with the Borough's engineer, Andrew Holt. Suburban Engineering

will have to review the history since they were not the Borough's engineering firm during the time of the project.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 104 North Prospect Street- A dead tree in the r.o.w. area was reported. K. Halpin visited the location and confirmed that the tree should be removed. It will be added to the 2012 Maintenance List.
2. 338 North Prospect Street- A hazardous tree was reported by the homeowner. Dead branches had fallen into the street on several occasions. K. Halpin visited the location and reported that the ivy climbing up the tree caused it to decline. It will be added to the 2012 Maintenance List.
3. 22 Lambert Street- Homeowner (Marie Robinson) reported branches falling into her backyard from a tree located in an easement area at the end of West Warren Street. K. Halpin assessed the area and determined that the tree in the easement is healthy and unlikely to be dropping dead branches. The tree is not located in the r.o.w. area. No further action is necessary at this time.
4. 1 Alvin Sloan Avenue- a neighbor reported branches obstructing the sidewalk area. The Commission agreed to evaluate their designated areas in town and list addresses that need trimming. The results will be discussed at the September 10th meeting. K. Halpin commented that she would trim the tree at 1 Alvin Sloan, since it was already reported as a hindrance to pedestrians.
5. Shade Tree Ordinance- Borough Council needs clarification on (4) areas in the updated Shade Tree Ordinance before approving it. The Commission reviewed the (4) questionable areas and will resubmit the amended copy to the Borough Manager.
6. 259 Carlton Avenue- Homeowners (Bill & Jan Henderson) reported that their Sycamore tree is declining and are willing to remove it at their own expense. K. Halpin recommended that the Commission's tree expert, Jeremy Summitt evaluate the tree before responding to the Hendersons. K. Halpin will contact J. Summitt regarding this request.
7. 8 Gibson Place- Homeowner (Margaret McCann) reported a tree on her corner property that needs trimming. S. Marr visited the location and determined that it was not in the r.o.w. area. Ms. McCann will be notified that she is responsible for the maintenance of the tree.
8. 137 Belvidere Avenue- K. Halpin reported a dead tree on the corner of Belvidere Avenue and West Stewart St. The tree appears to be leaning into West Stewart St. creating a potential hazard. K. Halpin recommended this tree be added to the maintenance list as a removal.

9. Review of the 2012 Maintenance List- Due to the addition of (3) removals from last month's meeting, a Motion was made by K. Halpin and seconded by L. Ferguson to use Andy-Matt, Inc., a Morris County Cooperative tree service for the removal of (4) trees and (12) stumps.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

A list of removal locations will be sent to Andy-Matt, Inc. for a price proposal.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business before the Commission, it was moved by K. Halpin and seconded by G. Pohorely that the meeting be adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Fleming