

**SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 10, 2014**

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, November 10, 2014. A Motion was made by G. Pohorely and seconded by S. Marr that the minutes be approved for the meeting of October 6, 2014.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Annual Shade Tree Conference - Shade Tree Annual Conference in Cherry Hill, NJ. was attended by Commissioners, Suzanne Marr and Gary Pohorely. The required (8) CEU credits were received to maintain the Approved Status requirement under the NJ Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act. The conference was beneficial in providing the Commissioners with practical information on topics as Pruning & Performance and Promoting Tree Canopy Health.
2. Planting List for Penny Toss Farms - Proprietor, Tim Terry will provide the mark-outs for the prospective planting locations. The trees from Mr. Terry's business are scheduled to be planted after the first heavy frost. K. Halpin will be in contact with Mr. Terry to discuss any changes to this development.
3. Remaining 2014 Budget - There is approximately \$800.00 remaining in the Shade Tree Commissioner's budget. The Commission discussed the options of utilizing the remaining funds by targeting the high priority hazardous trees. Unfortunately, the cost to remove the ones at the high end of the list exceeded the 2014 budget balance. K. Halpin suggested that the encumbered money for the Penny Toss tree planting may be accessible. Another meeting may be scheduled in December to utilize enough funds to remove a hazardous tree on West Warren.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Woman's Club Tree Dedication- The Shade Tree Commission received a letter from Barbara Rose on behalf of the Washington Woman's Club. A long time member and club president, Marie Snover had recently past away. The members wish to commemorate Mrs.

Snover with a tree planted in her honor. K. Halpin suggested that the Commission use an ornamental tree from Tim Terry's donated portion. The planting date would also be scheduled as the Shade Tree Commission's Arbor Day Acknowledgement. This would enable the Woman's Club to use their money for a dedication plaque for Mrs. Snover and save on the cost of the tree. A letter will be sent to the Woman's Club regarding this suggestion. K. Halpin also suggested that the Commission request a quote for the removal of an Elm Tree located on the Carlton Avenue entrance of the Washington Borough library. The tree encountered recent storm damage and should be replaced. Once the Elm is removed it would be an appropriate location for the Woman's Club tree.

2. 2015 Budget Worksheets- The Shade Tree Commission requested the same amount of funds that were provided in 2014 (\$15,500.00). However, Shade Tree Chairperson, K. Halpin attached a brief letter stating that the tree maintenance for the Borough always exceeds the annual funds that are allocated to the Commission. It was also noted that the Commission will continue to apply for any maintenance grant that is available by the State.
3. 40 Broad Street- A tenant reported a declining tree in the r.o.w. area. G. Pohorely visited the location and determined that it was not an immediate hazard to the public. It was suggested that the Hackberry Tree be evaluated in the Spring for trimming. This location will be added to the 2015 maintenance list.
4. 267 West Warren Street- Borough resident (Nick Kaufman) requested that dead branches be trimmed in a tree located in front of his home. G. Pohorely determined that the tree was not in the r.o.w. area and sections appeared to be already pruned. Since this was not a town tree, there is no action to be taken at this time.
5. 261 West Warren Street – A tree was removed from the r.o.w. area without notifying the Shade Tree Commission. This is a violation of Washington Borough's Ordinance #76-7. A letter will be sent to the property owner stating that the penalty is a \$500.00 fine or the option of replacing the tree with a comparable one. A replacement would have size specifications and a deadline for planting.
6. 119 McDonald Street – Homeowner (Joseph Lella) reported a declining tree in the r.o.w. area of his property. Mr. Lella is concerned that it is a potential hazard to cars and pedestrians. He requests that the Norway Maple be removed. K. Halpin agreed that the tree is dying and should be removed. It was suggested that the Commission request a quote for this removal. A letter will be sent to the homeowner stating that the Commission will remove the tree, depending on the funds that are available in 2014.

**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 8:00 p.m.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Fleming