

SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 9, 2017

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, January 9, 2017. A Motion was made by G. Pohorely and seconded by S. Marr that the minutes be approved for the meeting of November 14, 2016.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS:

The following appointments were made for the year 2017:

A Motion was made by Commissioner G. Pohorely, and seconded by Commissioner S. Marr that Kathy Halpin be named Chairman.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

A Motion was made by Commissioner S. Marr, and seconded by Commissioner K. Halpin that Gary Pohorely be named Secretary.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

THE SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2017:

Kathy Halpin, Chairman
Gary Pohorely, Secretary

2017 SHADE TREE MEETING SCHEDULE:

January 9, 2017
February 13, 2017
March 13, 2017
April 10, 2017
May 8, 2017
June 12, 2017
September 11, 2017
October 10, 2017
November 13, 2017

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Arbor Day Pamphlet: January/February 2017
2. Tree City Bulletin #20 A Systematic Approach to Building with Trees

OLD BUSINESS:

1. 47 Alvin Sloan Avenue – Property Owner (Robert Cammarota) attended the January 9th meeting to discuss the removal of a tree in the right-of-way of his property. Unfortunately, Mr. Cammarota's address was placed on the removal list, which was intended for the adjacent property at 45 Alvin Sloan Avenue. Consequently, Mr. Cammarota received a letter stating that the tree in the right-of-way would be removed by the town. After the Commission apologized for the address error, the property owner requested that his tree also be removed. Mr. Cammarota expressed his concerns about the fallen branches and sparse areas on the tree. K. Halpin suggested that a professional tree service evaluate his tree, the next time the Commission requires a maintenance job proposal. Mr. Cammarota conveyed his desire to be home when the tree service does their evaluation. The Commission expressed that they would try to accommodate his request. There is no further action taken at this time.
2. Tree City Recertification Application – S. Marr completed the annual application by the December 31, 2016 deadline. The New Jersey State Forester, Carrie Sargeant will be contacted before the next meeting to confirm the outcome of the Shade Tree Commission's recertification for 2017.
3. 113 Belvidere Avenue – Property Owners (Mr. & Mrs. Cannavo) removed a tree in the r.o.w. area of their property. A letter was sent to the owners with a copy of Ordinance #76-7. This summarizes the consequences of removing a r.o.w. tree without notifying the Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Cannavo responded to the letter with a phone call. He apologized for this action and as a new owner, was not aware of the shade tree ordinance. Mr. Cannavo expressed that he and his wife plan to replace the tree with a flowering Cherry in the Spring. They were instructed that the replacement tree is required to be 3" caliber. The Shade Tree Commission also conveyed to the owner that the new tree needs to be planted within the right-of-way area.

4. Golden Rain Tree Replacement - The plan to replace the damaged Golden Rain tree in the downtown business district will be determined at a later time. Apparently, the Washington Avenue crosswalk in the center of town is scheduled to be relocated. There is a possibility that the replacement tree may be in close proximity of the crosswalk's new location.
5. CSIP Grant – There are 40 possible locations to plant trees with the state grant funds. G. Pohorely will update the list for the next Shade Tree meeting. There are 14 more planting sites that need to be selected.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Tree Seedling Catalog for 2017 - The annual seedling order will be discussed at the next Shade Tree meeting. Seedlings are traditionally provided to the kindergarten classes during the Arbor Day program at Taylor Street School.

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 7:45 p.m.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Fleming