

MINUTES
HUNTERDON COUNTY SHADE TREE COMMISSION
January 14, 2015

The Hunterdon County Shade Tree Commission (HCSC) met at its regular meeting on the above date at the Route 12 County Complex, Building 1, 1st Floor, Flemington. The meeting notice was in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act on January 9, 2015.

Members present: John Anderson, Rosa Yoo, A.R. Willey, Shaun C. Van Doren and William K. Wild.

Also present: Tom Mathews, P.E., Director, Public Works.

There was one person present in the audience.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by Chairman Anderson.

REORGANIZATION

Mr. Wild made a motion to nominate John Anderson as Chairman for 2015 seconded by Mr. Willey. AYES: 5, NAYS: 0.

Mr. Van Doren made a motion to nominate Bill Wild as Vice-Chairman for 2015 seconded by Mr. Willey. AYES: 5, NAYS: 0.

Mr. Anderson made a motion to nominate Shaun Van Doren as Secretary for 2015 seconded by Mr. Willey. AYES: 5, NAY: 0.

All were in agreement to retain the Commission's meeting schedule for 2015 – 2nd Wed of every other month.

CORRESPONDENCE

Tree Tips from Bartlett Tree Service.

The Shade Tree, Nov-Dec. 2014 issue.

Gardener News article from December 2014 on Emerald Ash Borer.

Information on NJ Plants Show January 27-28, 2015

Organic plant care brochure on Ash Trees.

Notice re annual meeting CTEs available at session in Freehold on January 23rd on tree care/tree experts.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Dr. Neil Hendrickson from Bartlett Tree Experts was present to talk about the Emerald Ash Borer.

MINUTES

November 12, 2014.

Mr. Wild made a motion to approve the minutes of November 12, 2014 as amended with the correction re Paul Mayer, Morris Museum, seconded by Mr. Willey. AYES: 5, NAYS: 0.

NEW BUSINESS

2015 Budget

Mr. Mathews reported that he submitted the 2015 budget request at the same level as 2014, ~ \$ 7,000 requested. It was due on Friday but was submitted earlier today.

2015 Arbor Day

There was a discussion on the tree requests for schools, which was mailed on January 8; Mr. Mathews indicated that ~ 10 had been received thus far indicating they wanted a tree. The number purchased has typically been 30, with a mix of large and small trees with species such as dogwood and redbud, 1.5-2" caliper. Ms. Yoo will develop a list and meet with Greg Ent to work on pricing and availability. Greg usually goes to the nursery and selects them.

There was a discussion on the location for the ceremony. The Heron Glen Golf course was suggested. There is a Tulip tree in serious decline at the 16th hole; the tree guards the 2nd shot as the tree makes the hole so a new tree needs to go in its place. All were in agreement that a 2-2.5" caliper Tulip tree should be purchased to replace the tree. Also suggested was to have the ceremony again at South County Park due to the number of trees needed there, especially around the parking areas. A 3rd location suggested was the Hunterdon County Communications Center. Mr. Anderson will visit that site in light of the fact there is a 1st responder memorial being planned, having been approved by the Freeholders. It's an Eagle Scout project by a Boy Scout from Alexandria Twp.

2014 Annual Forestry Plan Report

Mr. Van Doren indicated that Melissa Allen from Mr. Mathews' staff has drafted the report.

Community Lecture

Mr. Anderson raised the issue of the STC sponsoring a lecture on the Emerald Ash Borer and other tree topics and asked Dr. Hendrickson if he would make the presentation, to which he accepted. It would be on March 11 at 7 pm with the STC meeting moved up to 630 pm. Mr. Van Doren asked about also inviting someone from the DEP however Ms. Yoo indicated someone from the State Agriculture Department would be able to provide more information as they are tracking it. Mr. Van Doren indicated that once a location was reserved then a press release would be sent and all municipal Shade Tree Commissions, Environmental Commissions, Open Space Committees, etc. would be invited.

OLD BUSINESS

Forestry Management Plan

There was a discussion on the tree inventory with respect to the number of ash trees identified on it. The results showed, as of Dec. 19, 2014, there were 116 hazardous ash trees (13 American Ash, 18 Ash and 85 White Ash) and 1 specimen White Ash tree in Rosemont near the Route 519/604 intersection.

Ms. Yoo indicated that there should be an Emerald Ash Borer section added to the management plan before it is submitted.

There was a discussion on other tree diseases as well as Gypsy moth infestation in Lebanon Twp.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm upon motion of Mr. Wild, seconded by Mr. Anderson. AYES: 5, NAYS: 0.

Shaun C. Van Doren,
Secretary/Member