

Delanco Shade Tree Commission

770 Coopertown Road - Delanco, NJ 08075

Delanco Shade Tree Commission

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

April 27, 2011

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:10PM by Chairman Lacina.

Flag Salute

All those present participated in the flag salute.

Sunshine Statement

The Sunshine Statement was read aloud by Chairman Lacina.

Roll Call

The members present at this meeting were Chairman Lacina, Mr. Matulewicz, Mr. Atkinson, Mrs. Braun, and Mrs. Hinkle.

Vice Chairman Taraschi, Mr. Schmitt and Mrs. Silverberg were not in attendance.

Approval of minutes from the Regular Meeting of March 23, 2011

A motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of March 23, 2011 was made by Mr. Matulewicz and was seconded by Mr. Atkinson. The motion was carried unanimously with no abstentions.

Public Forum

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

Old Work

Guerra--854 Pennsylvania Ave

The Commission received trimming/removal requests for these trees on two separate occasions last year. It was decided that the best course of action was for the trees to be trimmed. Public Works went out to perform that work and suggested that removal would be a better option in their current condition. Mr. Fenimore asked that the Commission review the case and re-inspect the trees.

Several members of the Commission went out to inspect the trees. It was reported that the trees appeared healthy with a minimal amount of dead wood present. The Board agreed to table the matter until April's Meeting in order to give the trees time to bud out and perform a re-inspection.

A re-inspection was performed and the trees appeared to be healthy and budding. The removal request was denied.

New Work

Schultice -- 1609 Rivers Edge Dr.

Homeowner is looking for removal of the tree in front of her home. She states that the roots are lifting up the sidewalk and she would like to replace the concrete.

Mr. Atkinson performed an inspection on the tree and sidewalk. Although there is a lot of damage to the sidewalk, the tree itself appears to be healthy. It was decided that the removal request would be denied at the present time but that a re-inspection would be done in the future.

Wilmerton -- 622 Union Ave.

Homeowner is looking for the removal of the two trees in front of her home. She states that one is dead and that the roots of the other one are destroying her sidewalk, walkway and sewer line.

Mr. Atkinson performed an inspection of the trees. It was concluded that the tree on the right, closest to the corner had a dead crown and should be removed. The other tree is healthy and appears to be in good shape. It was agreed, however, that a member would revisit the residence and speak to the homeowner about possible solutions since the tree appears to be causing property damage.

Schmitt -- 308 Peach Tree Ln.

Homeowner is requesting the removal of the tree located between 308 and 310 Peach Tree Ln. He states that it is rubbing the power and phone lines. In addition, the tree has bark fungus and weak forks.

Chairman Lacina inspected the tree and observed that the branches were hanging on the electrical wires and that the tree had blight. It was decided that it should be added to the removal list and classified as a low priority.

Boyle --312 Princeton

Homeowner is requesting the trimming or removal of the tree on the corner of Princeton and Goucher. The tree on the Goucher side is lifting the curb and street, and as a result it is leaving sitting water between the driveway and the tree. In addition, he states that there are branches hanging on the electrical wires.

Mr. Atkinson performed an inspection and reported that the tree is very large and appears healthy. The crown has grown above the wires and is in need of a trim. A request was submitted to PWD.

Cesaretti -- 301 Willow St.

Homeowner is requesting the removal of the tree to the left side of the front door. She states that the roots were destroyed by a back hoe during a hardscape project and as a result the tree is dying.

Mr. Atkinson and Chairman Lacina performed inspections and concluded that the roots were cut and that the top of the tree was completely dead. A removal was recommended and a request was submitted to PWD.

Matulewicz -- 737 Franklin St.

Homeowner is requesting the removal of the tree on the corner of Franklin and Poplar (on Poplar side). He states that it is leaning onto his property and lifting the curb.

Mr. Atkinson performed an inspection and observed that the tree has a severe lean and is a safety hazard as it may fall on the sidewalk. A removal was recommended and a request was submitted to PWD.

203 Union Ave.

This was an additional request submitted by Chairman Lacina. He performed an inspection at the residence and concluded that the tree in question was dead. He spoke with the homeowner, who stated that he would be willing to replace it with two new trees. A removal request was submitted to PWD.

Open Forum

Mr. Matulewicz reported that as part of the Arbor Day plans, he would speak to the local Boy Scouts about tree care and then was planning on meeting them at West Ave. to remove the stakes and wires from the Cool Communities trees planted last year.

Mrs. Silverberg and Mrs. Braun would be reading to the kindergarten and first grade classes at Pearson Elementary School to educate the children on the importance of trees in our neighborhoods.

Mrs. Hinkle donated Crape Myrtles and it was discussed that they would be planted at West Ave. on the Saturday after Arbor Day.

Ms. Pugh offered to donate a tree that she has in a pot. Mr. Matulewicz stated that he would contact her to take a look at the tree and see where it was best suited to plant.

Mr. Atkinson inquired about when would be a good time to set up the second half of the training session with Kevin Scibilia. It was suggested that June might be an option and Mr. Matulewicz stated that he would contact Kevin and attempt to set up a date.

Correspondence

An updated tree removal list was sent to John Fenimore and the approved minutes from March's meeting were sent to Marie DiSibio for posting.

A letter was sent to Mr. Pippin (638 Union) advising him that a tree inspection had been done and that his request had been approved.

All members received their 2011 New Jersey Shade Tree Federation Membership cards.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Matulewicz and was seconded by Mr. Atkinson. The motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 PM.