

Delanco Shade Tree Commission

770 Coopertown Road- Delanco, NJ 08075

Delanco Shade Tree Commission

Minutes of Regular/Reorganization Meeting February 23, 2011

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:07, by Chairman Schmitt.

Flag Salute

The flag salute was conducted by all present.

Sunshine Statement

The Sunshine Statement was read aloud by Chairman Schmitt.

Roll Call

Commission members present at this meeting were: Chairman Schmitt, Vice Chairman Taraschi, Mr. Matulewicz, Mr. Lacina, Mrs. Silverberg, Mrs. Braun and Mrs. Hinkle. Mr. Atkinson was not in attendance.

Reorganization for 2011

Nomination for Chairman

Mark Lacina was nominated for Chairman by Mr. Taraschi. This nomination was seconded by Mr. Matulewicz . The motion was carried unanimously with no abstentions.

Nomination for Vice Chairman

Carl Taraschi was nominated for Vice Chairman by Mr. Schmitt. This nomination was seconded by Mr. Lacina. The motion was carried unanimously with no abstentions.

Nomination for Secretary

Marissa Braun was nominated for Secretary by Mrs. Silverberg. This nomination was seconded by Mr. Taraschi. The motion was carried unanimously with no abstentions.

Motion for Commission Solicitor

The motion was made to retain Doug Heinhold as Solicitor for the Commission by Mr. Schmitt. The motion was seconded by Mr. Matulewicz. The motion was carried unanimously with no abstentions.

Motion for Consultant to the Commission

The motion was made to retain Kevin Scibilia as a Consultant to the Commission by Mr. Matulewicz. The motion was seconded by Mr. Schmitt. The motion was carried unanimously with no abstentions.

Approval of minutes from Regular Meeting of October 27, 2010

The motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of October 27, 2010 was made by Vice Chairman Taraschi. The motion was seconded by Chairman Lacina. The motion was carried unanimously with no abstentions.

Public Forum

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

Old Work

All old work was resolved at the October 27, 2010 regular meeting.

New Work

Pless - 201 Larchmont

Homeowner is requesting the removal of a large Buttonwood tree in front of the residence. He states that over the last several years, it has begun tilting toward the

street and lifting the sidewalk. Over the past six months, the progression has accelerated and the homeowner fears that it will eventually fall, taking the power lines with it.

Vice Chairman Taraschi performed an inspection. He observed that the sidewalk had been repaired and that although the tree is leaning slightly, it appears healthy, well balanced and not presently affecting the power lines. The removal request was denied.

Tyler - 838 Laurel St.

Homeowner is requesting the trimming of the tree directly in front of his residence. He states that there is a large limb hanging over the street and several branches hanging over the home. He is worried about the damage that could be done if these were to break off.

Chairman Lacina and Vice Chairman Taraschi both performed inspections. They agreed that the tree appeared healthy and well balanced and no problems were observed. The trimming request was denied.

Ash - 2100 Burlington Ave

Homeowner is looking for the removal of the Swamp Maple on the corner of Burlington and Larchmont. He states that the tree has caused years of damage by falling limbs and sewer problems.

Vice Chairman Taraschi performed an inspection. He observed that the tree was very large and overgrown. The sidewalk was marked off with yellow caution tape because of significant lifting and damage. The removal request was approved and submitted to PWD.

Schuyler - 210 Union Ave

Homeowner is requesting the trimming of the tree in front of her home. She states that she recently tried to have a Direct TV dish installed on her roof and the service could not

be set up due to the size and position of the tree limbs. She also claims that the branches are very tangled in her power lines.

Vice Chairman Taraschi performed an inspection. He spoke with the homeowner and observed that the dish had in fact been installed. There was no evidence that the branches were entwined in the power lines and the request was denied.

Open Forum

Mrs. Hinkle raised concerns about residence pruning or cutting down Township trees and what the ramifications should be for those offenders. It was suggested that an article should be posted on the DSTC website to educate and notify the public that they would receive a citation for pruning Township trees without authorization. Vice Chairman Taraschi offered to create a resolution to be passed at next month's meeting in order to process complaints effectively. This resolution, once passed, would also be posted on the website for public viewing.

Mr. Matulewicz updated the Commission on the status of the distribution of BSF grant money. He was notified by Joe Bennett that all projects must be completed by September 30, 2011 to qualify for reimbursement.

Mrs. Silverberg expressed an interest in attending CORE training this year. She also inquired if the Commission was planning on organizing an Arbor Day presentation for the kindergarten classes of M. Joan Pearson Elementary School as done in the past.

Correspondence

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

The DSCT received notification that our annual membership to the Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA Bulletin is going to expire and payment is due. The Commission also received a request for an 2010 Annual Accomplishment report to be submitted to the Division of Parks and Forestry.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Schmitt, and was seconded by Chairman Lacina. The motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 PM.