

# Delanco Shade Tree Commission

770 Coopertown Road - Delanco, NJ 08075

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## *Delanco Shade Tree Commission*

### *Minutes of Regular Meeting*

*October 26, 2011*

#### *Call to Order*

The meeting was called to order at 7:01, 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*

All members of the Commission were present for the meeting.

Mr. Scibilia and Mr. Letizio were also in attendance.

#### *Approval of minutes from the Regular Meeting of August 24,2011*

A motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of August 24, 2011 was made by Mr. Atkinson and was seconded by Chairman Lacina. The motion was approved with all members in favor with the exception of Mr. Schmitt, who abstained.

#### *Public Forum*

Mr. Scibilia was asked to inspect the very large Ash tree in front of the Mansion. He reported that he believes it is in great condition for as old as it is and for the space that it is in. He stated that it measures approximately four feet in diameter and is about 150 years old. He suggested that all dead wood more than 2 inches in diameter should be removed. The curb should not be replaced as it has become part of the tree and the attempted removal would most likely kill the

tree. He also stated that re-paving the sidewalk where it is uplifted and buckling was not the best solution and that possibly using gravel instead or diverting the sidewalk towards the water were better alternatives.

During his inspection, Mr.Scibila noticed a Norway Maple to the left of the property that is dying. His suggestion was to remove this tree and replace it with 2 large trees such as American Sycamores or White Oaks and to place them so that they frame the view of the water instead of obscuring it.

Mr. Letizio spoke about the upcoming projects happening around the site of the Mansion. Mr. Taylor of Taylor Design Group suggested installing a sidewalk with a 15 foot loop in close proximity to the water. Off of the initial loop, several spur offs could be implemented for picnic and handicapped areas. Mr. Letizio added that no more trees would be planted curbside but instead would be placed approximately 10 feet off of the road and closer to the water. He agreed with the Commission on the removal of the Norway Maple and stated that the concrete work was expected to begin the second week of December.

### ***Old Work***

All old work was resolved at last month's meeting.

### ***New Work***

#### ***Verner -100 Walter Ave.***

Homeowner is looking for a trimming of the Sassafras tree on the left side of her property. She states that it appears to have several dead branches in the top of the tree but that the remainder of the tree appears healthy.

Mr. Taraschi inspected the tree and stated that while it appears to be relatively healthy, the center core looks like it is starting to rot. The Commission decided to have the tree inspected by Mr. Scibilia in January.

#### ***Shugant - 720 Pennsylvania Ave.***

Homeowner is looking for the removal of the Maple tree in front of his home. He states that it appears to be half dead and it is leaning towards the street.

Mr. Taraschi and Mr. Lacina both inspected the tree and reported that it appears to be leaning toward the street. The half of the tree that is facing the homeowner's property is dead. The Commission was in agreement that removal was the best option.

#### ***Gunkel - 415 Kansas Ave.***

Homeowner is looking for a trimming of the Crimson Maple that sits center to the bay window of the house. She states that there is one long branch that leans toward the house and that the tree in general has become very large and overgrown.

Mr. Taraschi performed an inspection and reported that the tree appeared healthy and well proportioned. Trimming was a possibility however the Commission decided to table the request until the tree blooms in the Spring.

***Tiberi - 510 Burlington Ave.***

Homeowner is looking for the removal of the Sycamore tree on the Willow Street island next to her driveway. She states that recently several large hollow branches have fallen. She states that the tree is in very bad shape with several large holes and an infestation of carpenter ants. John Fenimore and the police have already been out to the location.

Mr. Taraschi inspected the tree and stated that it appeared to be relatively healthy and well proportioned. There was one long branch over the street that could possibly be trimmed off. Homeowner is adamant that there is infestation and that the tree is dying. The Commission decided to have it inspected in January by Mr. Scibilia.

***Lavery - 52/54 Ships Way***

Mr. Taraschi sent an email and asked that the Commission inspect the Oak trees in front of these two homes. He states that they appear to have brown scorch and a wasp infestation. In addition, the branches are hanging very low over the sidewalk.

The Commission decided to have these trees inspected by Mr. Scibilia in the Spring.

***Lewis - 205 Hazel Ave***

Homeowner is looking for the removal or trimming of the tree on the left side of the property facing Hazel Ave. He states that it appears to be 50% dead and is concerned about falling branches.

The tree was inspected by several members of the Commission and it was agreed upon that the tree is dead and that removal is the best option.

***Tyler- 838 Laurel St.***

Homeowner is concerned that the large tree in front of his home is top-heavy. He is looking for a trimming of the branches to thin it out some.

Several members of the Commission performed inspections of the tree and were in agreement that it appears healthy and well proportioned and that no action would be taken at this time.

### ***Mannion- 321 Union Ave.***

Homeowner is looking for the removal of the very large Oak tree in front of her property. She states that it is dropping large branches on her property, sidewalk and street.

Mr. Taraschi and Mr. Atkinson both performed inspections on the tree. They were in agreement that the tree could use a good trimming but that there appeared to be a large amount of new shoots growing and they were optimistic about the health of the tree.

### ***Open Forum***

Mrs. Silverberg brought the Commission up to date on the Core Seminar that she attended earlier in the month. She stated that she received a large amount of material and information and would bring them to the next meeting to share with the other members.

Mr. Atkinson stated that he has observed 3 trees on Poplar Ave. that have not survived. He inquired if they were still bonded. Mrs. Hinkle stated that she had a meeting the following week with Mr. Denton and would follow up. It was decided to hold off any action till the Spring to give the trees a chance to rebound.

### ***Correspondence***

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

A letter was sent to Mrs. Salek (210 Fenimore) , advising her that a tree re-inspection had been made and that her request for removal had been approved.

### ***Adjournment***

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Atkinson and was seconded by Chairman Lacina.

The motion was carried unanimously with no abstentions.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

