

Delanco Shade Tree Commission

770 Coopertown Road -Delanco, NJ 08075

Delanco Shade Tree Commission

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

July 28, 2010

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:19 by Vice Chairman Taraschi.

Flag Salute

All those present participated in the flag salute.

Sunshine Statement

The Sunshine Statement was read aloud by Mrs. Braun.

Roll Call

All members were present at this meeting.

Approval of Minutes from the Regular Meeting of June 23, 2010

A motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of June 23, 2010 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 this meeting.

Old Work

Pippin/Chapman- 1505 Second Street

Homeowner is looking for removal of tree because of dropping berries and falling limbs. He is also looking for a trimming of the large tree in front of his house. Homeowner claims that it is so dense that his lawn is now full of moss and mushrooms.

Mr. Atkinson did a preliminary inspection and reported that the tree closest to the driveway appeared to be in distress with budding but no leaves and several dead branches. He also reported that the trimming request for the other tree should be denied. He states that it is very large but is in great shape and poses no risk to the home or homeowners. Vice Chairman Taraschi also went out to inspect the trees and it was determined that while there was some dead wood in the late budding tree, no other action should be taken at this time. The consensus was that a member would revisit the location in two months time and make a final determination.

Mr. Atkinson and Vice Chairman Taraschi both went out and did follow up inspections. They observed some dead wood in the tree but did not feel that it was a hazard. The recommendation was that the tree needed to be trimmed and a work order was sent to Public Works .

216 Maple Ave.

This tree was addressed at last month's meeting when Chairman Schmitt went out to do another inspection on this block. It was his opinion that it should be removed and asked that other members of the Commission take a look, so that it could be discussed further at this meeting.

Mr. Atkinson and Vice Chairman Taraschi both went out to inspect the Norway Maple. Their opinion was that even though there appeared to be a fair amount of dead wood, there were no signs of girdling or distress. The recommendation was for a trimming and a work order was sent to PWD.

218 Maple Ave.

Upon inspecting the tree at 216 Maple Ave., Vice Chairman Taraschi also observed a Pin Oak in front of 218 Maple Ave that appeared to be in distress. He stated that the tree had blight and was dying. Other members of the Commission had also inspected the tree and agreed with Vice Chairman Taraschi's observations. The recommendation was for a high priority removal and a work order was sent to PWD.

New Work

Renson-230 Center Ave.

Homeowner states that he contacted the DSTC in September about a tree that is on the corner of Center Ave and Third Street and received no response. He stated that it is dropping limbs and is looking for an inspection with the possibility of either a trimming or removal.

Mr. Atkinson and Vice Chairman Taraschi both went out to the residence to inspect the tree. Mr. Atkinson stated that it was a sickly tree covered in ivy and that it had a significant amount of dead wood. Trimming this tree would probably decimate an already unhealthy tree. The recommendation was for a high priority removal and a work order was sent to PWD.

304 Center Ave.

While performing a tree inspection at 230 Center Ave., Vice Chairman Taraschi observed a tree in distress in front of 304 Center Ave. He stated that it had some significant dead wood including a few large dead limbs that hung over the street. The recommendation was for a trimming and a work order was sent to PWD.

Scornaerchi- 210 Lilac Lane

Homeowner is looking for the removal of an Oak tree on the left side of the residence near the property line. He states that he replaced the sidewalk less than 10 years ago and the tree has raised it and is now a tripping hazard.

Mr. Atkinson and Vice Chairman Taraschi went out to the residence to inspect the tree. Both are in agreement that this is a blighted Pin Oak and it is not thriving. It is caught up in the PSE&G wires and there is evidence that it was trimmed several times in the

past. The consensus was that this tree should be removed. A work order was sent to PWD.

Open Forum/Discussion Points

Vice Chairman Taraschi brought copies of the sidewalk and curb repair ordinance that was passed in July in order to educate the DSTC members on the obligations of the Township and of the homeowner.

Mr. Matulewicz reported on the sidewalk and curb replacement on Poplar Street and the ramifications for the existing trees at that location. He presented copies of the inspection report from Kevin Scibilia and also the invoice for that inspection. Mr. Scibilia's opinion is that most of the trees on this street should be removed with the exception of 2 London Planes and a Red Maple.

Mr. Matulewicz also proposed having Mr. Scibilia conduct a Tree Identification Course for this year's continuing education credits. The funding for the proposed class would come from the DSTC grant and would run over a three day period. The Commission agreed and Mr. Matulewicz stated that he would contact Mr. Scibilia to coordinate the dates.

Mr. Matulewicz reported that the grant paperwork was almost complete and that he had finished the last step in the process and would follow up with the Community Forestry Grants Program to confirm that they had received all that they needed from the DSTC.

Mr. Matulewicz also thanked Vice Chairman Taraschi for his hospitality in hosting the Annual DSTC picnic for the second year in a row.

Correspondence

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

Vice Chairman Taraschi sent a letter to Mrs. Dietrick from the Office of Dredging and Sediment Technology voicing the Commission's concern over the impending dredging of The Dunes and Hawk Island.

Letters were sent to Mr. Rannu (607 Franklin St) and Mr. Andersen (211 Maple Ave) advising them that tree inspections were performed and that their requests had been denied.

Mr. Matulewicz received paperwork from the State of New Jersey on the next steps that need to be taken in order to receive the grant money promised to the DSTC.

Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:07PM.