



*Delanco Shade Tree Commission*

*Minutes of Regular Meeting  
July 25, 2007*

***Call to Order***

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Matulewicz at 7:12 PM.

***Flag Salute***

The flag salute was conducted by all members present.

***Sunshine Statement***

The Sunshine Statement was read aloud by Chairman Matulewicz

***Roll Call***

Commission members present at this meeting were:  
Chairman Matulewicz, Vice Chairman Schmitt, and Mrs. Towell.

***Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting of June 27, 2007.***

The minutes from the meeting of June 27, 2007 were not voted on.

***Public Forum***

Mr. Smith of 1113 Burlington Avenue was present. He wanted to know what the decision of the Commission was regarding his request for removal of a tree adjacent to his residence on the Maple Street side. The case was discussed between the Commission and Mr. Smith. Since no decision could be made, the members of the commission agreed to inspect this specimen after the meeting.

(After the meeting, the Commission members inspected this tree. The Commission members agreed that a new curb could not be installed without severely damaging the tree roots, thus rendering the specimen unstable and possibly introducing disease to the tree. The Commission members and Mr. Smith agreed to refer the tree for removal, and Mr. Smith agreed to plant another Sugar Maple in his side yard.)

## *Old Work*

### ***SMITH - 1113 Burlington Avenue - V.C. Schmitt & Mr. Taraschi***

An email was received stating the following: "We are replacing sidewalk and curb on the Maple Ave side of our house at 1113 Burlington Ave and need to have a tree removed. The tree is leaning toward Maple Ave and cutting the roots that are buckling the sidewalk will leave it in danger of blowing over. One side of the tree is charred from a lightning strike. We hope to begin concrete work as soon as possible. Please let me know how long I should allow for removal of the tree. Thanks, Jean and Dave Smith."

(An email response was sent to the Smith's by Mrs. Towell explaining to them that their case will be assigned at the June meeting, then inspected and most likely decided upon at the July meeting. A scanned Request Form was attached to the email and the homeowner was asked to deliver or mail it to the Township Building.) This matter was addressed under Public Forum.

This case was decided in Public Forum

### ***EMERY - 225 Willow Street - Chairman Matulewicz***

"Remove tree & root, tree is  $\frac{3}{4}$  dead, between curb and sidewalk. Maple tree in front of house."

Chairman Matulewicz reports this tree is dead and recommends removal. The vote to refer this tree to Public Works for removal was unanimous, with no abstentions.

### ***TENTILUCCI - 4 Edward Avenue - Chairman Matulewicz***

"Some branches broken - falling from tree - tree is already dead. Front - center of property."

This case was deferred until August.

### ***TRIMBLE - 430 Perkins Lane - V.C. Schmitt and Mr. Taraschi***

This request was marked "Urgent-Danger!!!" "2 trees on twp property next to mine. One is completely dead & could take out my electrical main or fall across Perkins into power lines. Both trees have dead limbs overhanging sidewalks where kids walk to school. Twp. property - 2 oaks."

Vice Chairman Schmitt reported that he was unable to determine which two oak trees the homeowner was referring to in his request. (Members of the Commission visited this residence after the meeting and were unable to ascertain which trees the homeowner was referring to. The homeowner was not at home for the Commission to ask. Mrs. Towell is to send Mr. Trimble a letter requesting clarification.

## *New Work*

### *PALM - 2912 Colgate Avenue*

"Tree in front of house is rotting & decaying. Also is pushing out curb. In front of house. This case was assigned to Mrs. Towell.

### *Correspondence*

Mrs. Towell sent Mrs. DiSibio a copy of the most recently approved minutes and an updated list of trees forwarded to Public Works for action.

Postcards were sent to Mr. Schneider and Mr. DeSante advising them of the Commission's determination of their cases.

An updated list of trees was sent to Mr. Fenimore.

Letter to Paul's tree service has been drafted and is ready for approval. This item was deferred until June and Chairman Matulewicz asked Mrs. Towell to re-send the letter to him. This item was tabled until August.

An invoice from Mr. Scibilia was received regarding evaluation of the trees at the Newton's Landing. This invoice was placed in Township Committeewoman Joan Hinkle's mailbox.

An email was received from Mrs. Fink regarding the status of her case. This was forwarded to Chairman Matulewicz. Mrs. Towell sent a reply to Mrs. Fink advising her that she would be notified by email of the Commission's decision.

An email was received from Vice Chairman Schmitt regarding the status of 500 Spruce Street. Mrs. Towell answered this email, i.e., this is now on the Public Works agenda.

An email was received from Mr. Fenimore stating that the tree at 500 Spruce Street would have to go out for bids. This email was forwarded to Vice Chairman Schmitt and Chairman Matulewicz.

Mrs. Towell has Mr. Hamlin's NJ Shade Tree Federation Card.

### *Open Forum*

We are still in need of a measurement at the Farko residence on Second Street (Chairman Matulewicz and Vice Chairman Schmitt to check).

The Karaskas complaint.

"Most Magnificent" Plaque. Mrs. Towell needs to send this out for bids.

The invoice from Mr. Fenimore for aerial training is on hold.

Mission Statement. Mrs. Towell created a first draft of a mission statement and distributed it to all Commission Members and Mrs. Hinkle.

Mrs. Towell also drafted a reply to the proposed new ordinance and distributed that to all Commission Members and Mrs. Hinkle for their input.

## *Adjournment*

A motion to adjourn was made by Chairman Matulewicz and seconded by Vice Chairman Schmitt. The motion to adjourn was unanimous with no abstentions. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Minutes prepared by:

The image shows a cursive electronic signature of Barbara Towell in black ink.

(Electronic Signature)

Barbara Towell, Secretary

Delanco Shade Tree Commission