



Borough of Atlantic Highlands
Shade Tree Commission



100 First Avenue • Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey 07716
 Tel: (732) 291-1444 • Fax: (732) 291-9725

**Atlantic Highlands Shade Tree Commission
 Meeting at Atlantic Highlands Borough Hall
 February 8, 2023 - 7:00 PM**

1. The monthly meeting was called to order by Fred Callis at 7 p.m. in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law.

Present: Ashley Cruz, Fred Callis, Janet Grote, Ben Schmoll, Mary Trank; Lori Hohenleitner (council liaisons).

Not present: Ken Grasso, Edward Kenney, Angus Rennie, Bill Thorne; Vito Colasurdo (council liaison)

2. Janet made a motion to accept the January 2023 minutes. Fred Callis seconded the motion. Ben Schmoll abstained and all others voted in favor.

3. Correspondence: A catalog arrived from Coastal Nursery, the vendor from whom we purchased the fall planting trees.

4. The treasurer's report was presented by Fred Callis on behalf of Bill Thorne. Ben Schmoll made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Ashley Cruz seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Opening balance:		\$24,356.35 (January 12, 2023)
Expenses:	Tree planting paid to Coastal Nursery	\$9,875.00
	Misc. expenses paid to Ken Grasso	\$50.63
Total Expenses:		\$9,925.62
Deposits:		0
Closing balance:		\$14,430.72 (February 8, 2023)

5. Old Business:

a. Tribute Tree Plaque Modernization progress update: each plaque will cost \$100.

The Bernie Sweeney, Mary Thompson, and Brian Zamkotowicz tribute trees were planted in December 2022. The Pete Donoghue tribute tree is not thriving at its present location and will be replaced. It is possible the new tree will be planted at a different, more suitable location.

b. Poster contest: The theme of the Arbor Day poster contest is now "Wild About Trees in Atlantic Highlands."

c. Earth Month: The group discussed its interest in hosting a speaker during Earth Month. Fred Callis proposed bringing in Paul Cowie to talk about the trees planted at the World Trade Center Memorial (the "9/11 trees"). Councilwoman Hohenleitner said she would prefer Paul Cowie present specifically about Atlantic Highlands, given that he authored the borough's Community Forestry Management Plan (2020-2024). Ashley Cruz suggested that Paul Cowie could be asked to speak about trees in Atlantic Highlands and also about how trees can serve as memorials and, in that context, the 9/11 trees project. Mr. Callis is going to contact Mr. Cowie. The members discussed the scheduling of the event, however no decision was made pending contact with Mr. Cowie. Shade Tree will be coordinating with other participating borough organizations on the scheduling of this and other events.



Borough of Atlantic Highlands
Shade Tree Commission



100 First Avenue • Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey 07716
Tel: (732) 291-1444 • Fax: (732) 291-9725

6. New Business:

a. Annual Accomplishment Report: Bill Thorne authored the Shade Tree annual accomplishment report. Fred Callis thanked Bill and said, "It wouldn't have happened without you."

b. Tree ordinance, permits - revisions and/or additions: Councilwoman Hohenleitner said the council is working on the budget and is prioritizing funding to ensure the borough engineer is involved in the revision of and addition to tree ordinance and permits.

7. Public comment: none

8. Adjournment: Ashley Cruz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Janet Grote seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.