

Borough of Atlantic Flighlands 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 Held June 9, 2021 Meeting Held on Zoom

1. In attendance: Ken Grasso, Fred Callis, Bill Thorne, Mary Trank, Janet Grote, Lori Hohenleitner (Council liaison). Not present Rich Lerner, Ellen O'Dwyer.

The monthly meeting was called to order by Ken Grasso at 6:30 pm in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law.

- 2. The May meeting minutes are not yet available to review.
- 3. There is no new correspondence.
- 4. Treasurer's report (Bill Thorne):

Opening balance	May 13, 2021	\$6,505.87
Total expenses		\$0
Total deposits		\$0
Closing balance	June 9, 2019	\$6,505.87

Pending expenses: Mary Thompson memorial tree; awards for the poster contest.

Ken Grasso made a motion to approve the treasurer's report; Fred Callis seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

5. Old Business

a. Residential tree planting status

Ken Grasso said that residential tree planting began today, June 9, 2021, and would continue on June 10, 2021. We will be sending out an information sheet to the residents about watering the newly planted trees. Already a resident contacted Ken and another contacted Councilwoman Lori Hohenleitner to say that they are pleased with their trees.

b. Arbor Day planting (Mary Thompson recognition), tree ordered



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Mary Trank explained that the Serviceberry was ordered from Molzon nursery on May 24. Ken Grasso told the group that borough administrator Adam Hubeny will send a crew to pick up the tree and plant it. There was a discussion about having a Shade Tree member present at the planting and further discussion about watering.

Ken Grasso told the group that borough administrator Adam Hubeny had called and asked how we water trees the Shade Tree Commission has planted on borough property. Ken told him usually "bucket brigade" style, with five gallons brought to each tree per day. Adam told Ken the borough has purchased a watering truck that might be used. More details on this will be forthcoming.

c. Hennessey Blvd. trees

Ken Grasso met with Mike Hufnagel from Hufnagel Tree Service, a certified arborist. He said it appears the trees were planted too deeply and the roots might need to be dug out. His recommendation is "make sure we consider the cost of the effort to save them versus the cost of replacement." Resident Ashley Cruz, who is a landscape architect, is going to walk Hennessey and look at the trees.

d. Arbor Day Poster Contest

Councilwoman Lori Hohenleitner updated on the Arbor Day Poster Contest. There was a discussion about how to judge the submissions, which are digital this year, and what the prizes are going to be.

Ken made a motion to purchase gift cards not to exceed \$500; Fred seconded the motion. All agreed.

e. Heritage Tree Ordinance

Resident Ashley Cruz was asked about the proposed Heritage Tree Ordinance -- she is continuing to work on it.

New Business:

a. Recognition for Kate Wiggington -- Ken Grasso and the group began making plans for a luncheon for Kate Wiggington to thank her for her many years' service to Shade Tree.



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b. Watering truck -- as mentioned above, the town has a new watering truck. Ken Grasso said he presumed the truck would have to be driven by a town employee, so for now, we will continue watering "bucket brigade" style.

c. New email address -- Mary Trank said the Shade Tree Commission has a town email address ahstc@ahnj.com

Public comment: No new public comment.

Fred Callis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 pm. Ken Grasso seconded it. All voted in favor.