

Shade Tree Commission Meeting
May 12, 2015 7:00 PM
Atlantic Highlands Borough Hall Conference Room
100 First Avenue, Atlantic Highlands NJ 07716

Members in attendance: Fran Hogan, Marilyn Scherfen, Kate Wiggington

Marilyn Scherfen called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM in accordance with the Sunshine Law regulations.

The minutes from the April 14, 2015 meeting were reviewed and a motion was made by Fran Hogan and seconded by Bill Thorne to accept the minutes as presented. The motion passed with an affirmative vote from all members present.

The treasurer's report was presented by Bill Thorne. There were no deposits or expenses and there is a remaining balance of \$2088.59. A motion was made by Fran Hogan and seconded by Kate Wiggington to accept the report as presented. The motion passed with an affirmative vote from all members present.

Tree City Update: Marilyn Scherfen reported that the draft of the management study should be ready by mid-May.

Bill Thorne reported that STC has been added to the Borough website with related links. There were some suggestions to add to our site; 1) quotes promoting trees, 2) Applicable Borough ordinances that have not already been included, 3) encourage input and suggestions from residents.

Marilyn Scherfen reported that 14 stumps have been or will be removed with an additional one on the corner of Grand and Asbury to be added to the list.

Marilyn Scherfen reported that Jen Marsten is still very willing to help STC with our tree inventory. The Google map will be very helpful in establishing the protocol needed to accomplish this project.

Marilyn Scherfen also reported on the very successful and enjoyable tree planting ceremony for John Scott. The tributes shared by all were heartwarming, especially his grandson who shared warm memories and reflections about his Grandpa. The Borough street department, as usual, did a great job picking up the tree, digging the hole and providing the muscle for STC to pull off this great tribute.

The reception was also well attended. Stories and memories of the times and life of John Scott continued to be shared by all. The bountiful refreshments and lovely presentation were all accomplished by the efforts and generosity of Fran Hogan. The treats were enthusiastically and heartily enjoyed by all.

Marilyn Scherfen reported on the Arbor Day activities;

1. Tribute tree planting – great.
2. The poster contest was very successful. The talented students submitted excellent posters which were judged by the STC members and the contest winners were presented with their awards at the ceremony at the Elementary School by Louise Donoghue. The winning posters will be on display at several merchants' windows on First Ave. for a couple of weeks.
3. Louise Donoghue presented a program on Arbor Day and its history at the Library where she continued to distribute the tublings that were made available to the STC so they could be shared with the Community.

Marilyn Scherfen reported that the bare root will not be available for our fall planting. We will stop at Chapel Hill nursery and get some feed-back from Paul about options.

There was a discussion about the watering of recently planted Borough trees. It was suggested that each member be assigned a day to either water the designated tree or at least check the gator-bags and add water as necessary.

Borough Administrator Hubeny stopped by the meeting and we shared our concerns and information with him and he in turn was very helpful in answering our questions and offering continued support and help from him and the street department.

It was suggested that the STC schedule a get together to discuss ideas on how to get residents more interested and concerned about the tree planting, watering and general support of the STC's projects and programs.

The meeting was adjourned with a motion from Bill Thorne, seconded by Fran Hogan at 9:00 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 9, 2015 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

KATHLEEN WIGGINGTON
SUBSTITUTE SECRETARY