

# 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 July 14, 2021 Meeting Held on Zoom

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

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

- 2. Councilwoman Hohenleitner made a motion to approve the June meeting minutes; Rich Callis seconded the motion, All voted in favor.
- 3. Correspondence: Two requests for trees were received from homeowners. Permission to plant a tree was requested by a homeowner. Rich Callis is handling these requests.
- 4. Treasurer's Report: (includes a corrected closing balance for June/opening balance for July):

Opening balance		June 10, 2021	6,320.87
Total Expenses			0
Deposit	(Trees for Tomorrowin	memory of Delores Alverson)	100.00
Total Deposits			100.00
Closing balance July 14, 2021		July 14, 2021	6,4280.87
Pending expenses - Mary Thompson memorial tree			1,000.00
Pending deposits Green Communities Grant			3,000.00

Mary Trank made a motion to approve the treasurer's report; Rich seconded the motion; all voted in favor.



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#### 3. Old Business:

- a. Residential tree planting status all residential trees throughout town have been planted, though we are still awaiting replacement of a maple tree on Hennessey Blvd. Casola Farms is going to wait until the fall to plant this tree.
- b. Serviceberry tree purchase from Molzon Nursery. This planting will likewise occur in the fall.
- c. The members Continued a discussion from last month about concerns over the health of the Hennessey Blvd trees. Hufnagel Tree Service recommended loosening of soil around the base of the trees. Fred Callis led the discussion about how to proceed. Members decided to request an estimate from Hugnagel for the work.
- d. Arbor Day Poster Contest status Continuing discussion about judging the entries and recognizing the winners. Ms. Hohenleitner is organizing this.
- e. Heritage Tree Ordinance Resident Ashley Cruz is working on this, though not present at today's meeting.

#### 2. New Business

- a. The Shade Tree Commission will recognize Kate Wiggington at a luncheon to be scheduled in the fall.
- b. Some trees need to be pruned and some tree stumps need to be removed as part of our maintenance responsibility. There are approximately 10 trees. Fred Callis said Ken Grasso suggested we use Hufnagel Tree Service as the contractor for the job.



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- c. A request came in via email from a resident, Margaret Mika, for a tree to be planted in honor of her mother, Margaret. Fred Callis led a discussion about memorial trees generally, with Ellen O'Dwyer adding (via text; zoom difficulties) that we could add QR codes to each tree to include information about each honoree. Rich Lerner said that planting more trees is better than planting fewer trees. He said the commission discussed last year whether there should be a certain number of memorial trees per year, and if so, who gets included and who gets excluded. Bill Thorne said there are several mayors for whom trees could be planted. The question was raised: should memorial trees be tied to donations so that income comes in? Fred Callis asked how many trees/plaques do we want? And how do you decide? Ellen O'Dwyer said that rather than plaques we could have QR codes and a map. This will be an ongoing discussion.
- d. Meetings in August and and later will resume at the borough hall. Fred Callis asked Councilwoman Hohenleitener what the borough is planning regarding live streaming; he said that he would like the Shade Tree Commission to continue live streaming.
- e. The commission was given \$750 by the town to replace a tree that was cut down on Third Avenue by high school students during a scavenger hunt.
- 3. Public comment: Resident Morgan Spicer attended.
- 4. There is a meeting on the calendar for August 11, 2021, however it will be cancelled and the next meeting will be September 15, 2021.
- 5. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.