

Township of Franklin, Somerset County, N.J. - Shade Tree Commission

Meeting minutes June 26, 2014

Present: Christopher Williams-Chair, Jean Ambrose-VC, Jason Harkins, Robert Hudak, Sara Malone, Carol Parker, Arnold Schmidt

Absent: Carl Hauck, Jeff Baumley

Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm.

Approval of Minutes, May 2014 – J. Ambrose motioned, C. Parker 2nd as amended (DELETE old business item #3; modify new bus. #2 pertaining to location of dead tree; ADD new bus. Item #3 – appointment of tree sale subcommittee.

Old Business

1. CFMP – C. Williams has provided correct counts for Township Open Space to S. Malone for incorporation into CFMP. R. Hudak discussed minor questions/comments to the CFMP draft document previously distributed. Minor revisions discussed and with the incorporation of those revisions CFMP can be distributed to necessary Township staff for review/comment.

Action Item: S. Malone will contact C. Hauck to request list of Township staff that should be sent CFMP for review and will coordinate distributing to the list of staff provided by C. Hauck.

2. Site Plan Review Status: Since May meeting, C. Williams had not spoken to Township regarding the status of possible revisions to Town Code Chapter 222. J. Ambrose moved to direct the chair to inquire of the Town Manager the status of 222 before the next Commission meeting. The motion failed for lack of a second. Carol Parker moved that the chair should make the inquiry of the Town Manager by the September meeting. The motion was seconded by R. Hudak and was approved with 6 votes, S. Malone abstained from voting.

3. Financial Report:

Action Item: C. Williams will provide the financial report as an itemized list of expenditures and totals.

New Business

1. Tree Sale 2015: J. Baumley suggested that tree order should be placed within the next two months. Less species will be available later in the season.
2. 21 World's Fair Drive Permit – STC provided Tree removal permit application that was denied on May 5, 2014. It is not clear what the STC is being requested to do with this application.

Action Item: C. Williams will coordinate with the Township Engineer as to the status of this application and what is being requested of the STC..

3. Follow-up on STC's 2013 JFK Blvd. Tree Planting Project – J. Baumley suggested that trees need gator bags installed and filled with water weekly from July through October. Additionally, Tree gator bags and deer tree guards should also be installed on any newly planted trees that were installed by the TOWNSHIP.

Action Item: C. Williams will coordinate these recommendations to the Township.

Public Discussion

None, no public present.

Dendrology

J. Baumley gave an overview of New Jersey's prevalent species of Oak Trees (*Quercus*)

- Pin Oak (*Quercus Palustris*) – Leaf identified by deeply cut lobes that nearly touch stem, small acorns. Mature Height of approx. 75' and width of 40'.
- White Oak (*Quercus Alba*) – Identified by distinct, gray bark and a wide leaf with rounded lobes. Mature Height of 60-80' and a similar width.
- Sawtooth Oak (*Quercus Acutissima*) – Identified by shiny foliage, similar to Willow Oak. Produces a large volume of acorns. Mature Height of approx. 40-60' and a similar width.
- Red Oak (*Quercus Rubra*) – State Tree, large broad lobed leaves, Mature Height of approx. 75'.

Adjournment:

9:15 PM

J. Ambrose motioned, J. Baumley, 2nd

Respectively Submitted,

Jason Harkins
Secretary