

## **Shade Tree Commission Minutes Tuesday, May 8th, 2007**

Attendance: Ken Fekete, Patricia Finkle, Sharon Gill, Matt Petitjean, Richard Riordan, Mark Schmitter  
Excused absence: Diane Conlan, Lisa Enslow  
Guest: Resident Marcia Tencredi, 79 Center Avenue

The Chairperson Matt Petitjean called the meeting to order at 7:35PM.  
Minutes from 3/6/07 meeting were approved.

Our guest, Marcia Tencredi requested a tree be planted on her property. The Commission will try to honor her request.

Arbor Day: May 5th was a big success. Thank you Lisa and everyone for your help.

Spring Planting: 68 trees were planted successfully. One tree did not get planted at the request of the resident who changed her mind at the last minute. Mark will look at new Zelkova tree at Wakefield's house on Highland Avenue and advise if it is dead.

Fall 2007/08 Planting: We only have a few requests for tree plantings in Fall 2007. If we do not have a full Spring 2008 planting schedule, we will skip Fall plantings and put them all into Spring. If we do not have a Fall planting, we can use some of this funding for tree maintenance.

Library Time Capsule: The library has asked if the Commission would like to include something in its time capsule to mark their 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary. After discussion, it was suggested we put a photograph of Main Street trees before and after the recent planting. Matt will talk to Douglas Mott to see if he could help. Pat will try to talk to Doug Elliott to see how we would need to prepare the photograph to prevent decay.

Communications: The Commission discussed how we can better utilize the local Channel 21 message board to get some Shade Tree news out to the public. Pat will talk to Carol Nauta who handles the messaging.

Messages could include:

- If you want a tree planted, write to 54 Fairmount Avenue, c/o Shade Tree Commission or call Barbara Bate.
- Interested in joining Shade Tree Commission? Write to 54 Fairmount Avenue, c/o Shade Tree Commission.
- Post meeting times

Fiber Optic Line installation: Matt will walk Lafayette Avenue to determine extent of damage, if any, in laying fiber optic lines in the ground in the strip of land near the street. David Lloyd put fiber optic line company on notice for not following procedures and possibly damaging tree roots.

Streetscape Update: Will they plant trees in the spring 2008 now? They have to put in lights and sidewalks first and that may take more time than anticipated. Sharon will ask outside tree experts for their suggestions on what to plant on Main Street. Does soil under trees need improvement?

PSE&G: Scheduled tree work: PSE&G are no longer topping out trees in the right-of-way. They will just cut them down if in the power lines.

Tree Ordinance Improvements: Commission discussed the need to strengthen the current tree ordinance to better protect private trees. Commission will review entire ordinance to determine if there are other areas that need strengthening or amending. Commission will ask Jim McCabe for his comments and to help in writing the changes.

NJ Shade Tree Federation meeting: October 2007. Matt sent them an agenda for our presentation, i.e., procedures on planting, hazard tree evaluation, Main Street project, Friends of Shade Tree Committee.

Friends of Shade Tree:

Cool City Update: waiting on contract to be signed before making any determination on planting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00PM.

**The next scheduled Shade Tree Commission meeting date is set for Tuesday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at 7:30PM.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark Schmitter, Commission Secretary

Shade Tree Commissioners, Council Liaison  
Public Works Director, Borough Administrator

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