

**BOROUGH OF HO-HO-KUS
SHADE TREE COMMISSION
PUBLIC MEETING**

Minutes

April 6, 2015

I. OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

The open public meeting statement was read and the meeting was called to order at 2:40 P.M.

II. ROLL CALL

Present at the meeting were Commissioners Frank Grieder, Chris Raimondi, Kim Mitchell, Pat Pavelski and Dannie Chase. Also present were Sue Greig and resident homeowner, Robert Perrone, of **10 Marion Court** and Mr. Frank Parker, Owner of FP Executive Landscapes LLC.

The meeting was suspended to hear first from Mr. Perrone who stated he had a tree that needs removing. The lower branches were dropping off of the tree and it was loosing large quantities of bark. The Commissioners will look at the tree after the meeting. Mr. Perrone was told if he would like his landscaper to remove the tree he would need to file a permit in the borough office.

Second, Mr. Frank Parker had come to today's meeting to discuss planting two maples trees. This is his second visit to discuss his company is doing landscaping work at 6 Brookview Court. He noted that he was planting two Maple trees of 8 inch caliper in the front yard and the trees would be planted 12 feet from the curb.

Commissioner Raimondi asked, "That a permit be filed because the trees would have very large root balls. To plant a tree with this size ball would definitely infringe in the town right-of-way."

Mr. Parker noted that he had already done so. He asked Sue to check in JoAnne's permit file and phone him the following morning. This is being done to make sure all of the paperwork is complete before the planting of the maples begins.

NOTE: The following morning a permit copy was sent to Sue Greig from the clerk at the borough hall noting that Mr. Parker had "paid" and the permit application was complete.

III. MINUTES

A motion to accept the March minutes was made by Commissioner Mitchell. It was seconded and they voted all in favor.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Letter from-**419 Hollywood Avenue-** Cassie Wentworth- Ms. Wentworth reported to the commission that the trees in front of her home were bad when she move in 13 years ago but the trimming from the County and whatever disease they have has made them worse. She feels that all three trees need removing.

Commissioner Raimondi will look at the trees after the meeting.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Pamphlet** to insert into business department packages for people adding additions or building new homes within the borough.

This item is on hold until the Commission sees what is going on with the new ordinance change.

B. Mayor-New Ordinance/Budget letter

1. Budget

We haven't officially heard what amount we are receiving.

2. Liaison form the Town Council

None has been appointed yet.

3. Fees and Permits

It was suggested to use all monies in the Ross Trust Fund and open an Account under the Shade Tree name.

4. Involvement in the proposed design of the little park and repair of the stone wall by the library

No action.

5. Shade Tree Ordinance revision

There were several lines in the new ordinance that the Commissioners want the wording changed. The Commission worked on the changes and Commissioner Pavelski will rewrite them to be presented to the town's lawyer.

C. Borough Web Site for Shade Tree Commission

After viewing several other towns' websites, Commissioners Pavelski and Chase presented a beginning draft. It was suggested we start with something said about the Washington Elm. That may be how the Commission got some of its roots.

The website should be upbeat and informative and note the value of the trees within the borough.

D. Arbor Day-

Monday, May 4, 2015 time 3:45 P.M. the tree will be planted across from the car was by the corner of Elmwood and N. Franklin Turnpike.

The Public Works department must first remove the root ball from the old tree.

E. Post Cards to residents

There was no action at this time.

F. Normandy Court-money for trees

Commissioner Chris Raimondi will send a letter to the person in charge.

G. The Hollows-

There hasn't been a meeting but they chose a new engineer.

H. Bellezza- Did he get permit for Gordon Hamm and Ho-Ho-Kus Inn?
No permit has been obtained by either party. We should send him a bill.

We will look up the volunteer ordinance. The lights are down.

I. New Jersey Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act- Annual Report for 2014

This report has been sent. No new news.

J. PSE&G- stalks near 1031 E. Saddle River Road. Guy will look at the stalks and he will call the county for removal.

There was no action at this time.

K. 255 Warren Avenue- A branch is hanging in a tree at this address. Guy Vogt will check if this is near wires.

There was no branch hanging in this tree. It was already removed by Lewis.

L. 110 Ackerman Avenue- Scott & Jayne Wolff- The residents sent a letter noting that the middle tree of three along their property has very few branches on it and appears to be hollow in the middle.

VI. NEW BUSINESS/PERMITS

A. 29 Prescott Road- The homeowner questioned Commissioner Mitchell about the removal when she was out walking one day.

Commissioner Mitchell noted it was on our removals list. Commissioner Raimondi noted Joe Citro nixed the removal and didn't give us the money. It remains on our list.

VII. ADJOURMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:24 P.M.