

**MINUTES OF THE  
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP  
SHADE TREE COMMISSION  
February 4, 2016**

**TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING**

A meeting of the Cranbury Township Shade Tree Commission was held in Town Hall, 23A North Main Street, Cranbury, on February 4, 2016, at 11:00 a.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

With a quorum present, Wendy Borg called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m. and acted as the Recording Secretary of the meeting.

**STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE**

Pursuant to the Sunshine Law, adequate notice in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6) was provided on December 1, 2015, of this meeting's date, time and place, and the agenda was mailed to the news media, posted on the Township bulletin board, mailed to those requesting personal notice, and filed with the Municipal Clerk.

**REORGANIZATION**

On a motion by Lee Nissen, seconded by Bonnie Larson, Kathy Easton was elected Chair for 2016. All were in favor. Commission members commended Christine Quinn for her past years as Chair.

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Kathy Easton, Bonnie Larson and Marilee Nissen were present. Norma Swale and Christine Quinn reported their absences by phone.

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the November 19, 2015, meeting were amended and approved on a motion by Kathy Easton; seconded by Bonnie Larson. All were in favor.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Community Forestry Plan –

Volunteer Work Hours – Ms. Nissen worked nine hours; Mrs. Larson worked 10.5 hours; Ms. Easton 2.5 worked hours.

The points of the Forestry plan were reviewed for compliance. Many of the objectives could be met if funds could become available. Members will attend the township budget meeting this weekend to give comment.

Members will look into training this spring on pruning.

Beautification Committee new developments –

An oak was taken down in front of the seamstress shop on North Main Street. It did not survive the sidewalk replacement. New trees may be planted in place of the ones that did not make it throughout the entire project downtown. The beautification work continues on North Main, east side, from the corner of Park Place east to Scott Avenue, and on Park Place West. North Main Street, west side, from the Methodist Church down to the lake, also begun, and sidewalks are complete.

Amendment to Ordinance – Ms. Quinn attended a Township Committee meeting to give the annual report. The Committee has everything they need to approve the ordinance, however, they suggested that trees are not planted if the homeowner doesn't want one.

The Commission's position is that to meet a canopy goal and to be eligible for Sustainable Jersey, trees must be replaced and planted. Denise Marabello, the Township Administrator provided code information stating the Commission does have the full and exclusive control over shade trees over any public highway in town.

Tree City Application – This has been submitted to the DEP.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Tree inquiries – The Commission received an email from a resident of Four Seasons about the landscaping on the path from the development to Farmstead Way. She claims many trees are dead or dying and it is overgrown with weeds. She asked for replacement trees in the spring. Commission members will check the path and communicate with the resident.

Spring newsletter–The submission will be about protecting tree roots.

Forestry Annual Conference – Ms. Larson reported that the conference was worthwhile and the discussion was mainly about emerald ash borer. She gathered some material for the Shade Tree library in the Gallery closet. Also in attendance at the conference were Ms. Nissen and Mrs. Swale.

Budget meeting – Ms. Easton and Mrs. Larson plan on attending this meeting to hear testimony by Public Works. They will ask for \$5,000 for replacing trees that have been taken down on Main Street.

Arbor Day – Ms. Swale will officiate this year's celebration on Friday, April 29. An idea is replacing the cherry tree in Memorial Park. Ms. Easton will reach out to the Parks Commission.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**- None

## **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

There being no further business, motion duly made by Kathy Easton, seconded by Lee Nissen, and carried, the meeting was thereupon adjourned at 12:44 p.m.

## **CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY**

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify, that I am the duly appointed Secretary of the Cranbury Township Shade Tree Commission, and that this document, consisting of two (2) pages, constitutes a true and correct copy of the minutes of the monthly meeting held on February 4, 2016.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2016.

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Wendy W. Borg, Secretary