

**MINUTES OF THE
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP
SHADE TREE COMMISSION
February 2, 2017**

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 2, 2017, at 11:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Kathy Easton, chair of the Shade Tree Commission, called the meeting to order at 11:09 a.m. and Wendy Borg 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 5, 2016, 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.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Kathy Easton, Bonnie Larson, Lee Nissen and Norma Swale were present. Christine Quinn was excused.

MINUTES

The minutes of the November 3, 2016 meeting were amended and approved on a motion by Kathy Easton; seconded by Bonnie Larson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Community Forestry Plan –

Volunteer Work Hours – Mrs. Larson worked four hours; Ms. Easton worked eleven hours; Mrs. Swale worked two hours; Mrs. Nissen worked two hours.

Looking ahead to the rewrite for the new plan, which will be for 2018-2022. Commissioners will review Green Communities grant information on the state DEP website. Paul Cowie has been contacted for a quote for the CFMP rewrite. Two other bids are needed. Ms. Easton asked Commissioners to review the current CFMP and bring ideas for five year goals to the April meeting.

EAB in Cranbury – Information was included in the most recent township newsletter. The plan is to cut down the infected trees as soon as possible.

Tree Planting Plan- There is no plan for 2017. Monies (\$5,000) were asked for in the budget request, but not awarded as of yet.

Tree City application – This will be submitted to the Arbor Day Foundation this week.

NEW BUSINESS

Tree inquiries – Several new areas with potentially hazardous trees were indicated for the Commissioners to review.

- 1) Wyckoff Mills resident called in - ash trees on property. Ms. Easton will contact.
- 2) Shady Brook Lane resident – private property trees

Spring newsletter – Submission will include EAB information.

Township budget meeting – Mrs. Larson and Mrs. Easton attended the January 23rd Township Committee meeting and submitted a report for Year End 2015 and for 2016 activity. Mayor Cook also asked for an update of the 1-2-3 Hazardous Tree Assessment on Main Street. The initial assessment was done five years ago.

At the budget hearing on Saturday, January 28, more information was submitted for the 2016 Year End Report and a request made for \$5,000 in tree plantings in town. For the Community Forestry Management Plan, \$4,500 was budgeted, as well as \$25,000 for DPW. The STC communicated that an application will be submitted for the Green Communities Grant to help offset the cost of the CFMP rewrite.

Over 20 people from Four Seasons attended this meeting to urge the TC to cut down the affected ash trees. Four Seasons would like to work with the Shade Tree Commission on planting new trees in the future so sidewalks are secured. For a future meeting, the STC will consider a do-not-plant list of species that should not be planted.

Arbor Day – Tentative plans to plant in an empty hole on Main Street TBD. Secretary will contact the Cranbury School second grade to invite them to again participate in the annual ceremony.

Young Tree Pruning workshop – Tentative plans for a June training. Commissioners will consider a treed area for the workshop.

Paw Paw Park – The rogue trees have not been cut down yet. Ms. Easton will confirm with DPW that this will be done in springtime.

Annual Accomplishment Report –The report was reviewed and amended and will be faxed to the state DEP.

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 12:56 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 three (3) pages, constitutes a true and correct copy of the minutes of the monthly meeting held on February 2, 2017.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this ____ day of _____ 2017.

Wendy W. Borg, Secretary