

**Atlantic Highlands Shade Tree Commission  
Meeting October 15, 2019  
Atlantic Highlands Borough Hall Conference Room  
100 First Avenue, Atlantic Highlands, NJ 07716**

**In Attendance:** Bill Thorne, Ken Grasso, Louise Donoghue, Kate Wigginton, Rich Lerner, Lori Montana.  
Member of public: Maria Northrop

The monthly meeting was called to order by Ken Grasso at 6:34PM, in accordance to the Sunshine Law.

**The Minutes:** Minutes from the meeting on September 10, 2019 were accepted. Louise Donoghue made the motion, Ken Grasso seconded it; all in attendance agreed.

**Correspondence:** Susan Boracchia of 22 7th Avenue. Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey asked for permission to plant a tree. Ken Grasso will look at her property and speak to her.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Opening Balance: September 11, 2019 - \$15,574.41

Closing Balance: October 15, 2019- \$14,894.91

The motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Kate Wigginton, seconded Ken Grasso; all in attendance agreed.

**Public Comment:** Mrs. Maria Northrup of 40 Navesink Ave. Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey came to the meeting to discuss the borough's position that the homeowner is responsible for the trees on the parkway.

**Old Business:**

**Fireman's Field Project:** Bill Thorne, Robert Alverson (a volunteer), and Kate Wigginton looked at the property. Rich Lerner spoke to a landscaper who will give him a price.

**Touch a Truck:** Rich Lerner, Fred Callis, and Kate Wigginton handed out Shade Tree tote bags. The commission will order more tote bags to give out at future events.

**Stakeholders Meeting:** The commission voted to give Rich Wolowicz a \$300.00 honorarium for speaking. The motion was made by Ken Grasso, seconded by Bill Thorne; all in attendance agreed.

**Fall Planting:** In addition to last month's approved motion to plant trees on Hennessey Blvd., not to exceed \$1,000, a motion was made by Ken Grasso to plant a total of five trees at a cost of \$1,950.00. Bill Thorne seconded it; all in attendance agreed. To supplement the original motion, a new motion was made by Ken Grasso to apply the \$500.00 donation from Kalian (for tree removal) to the fall planting. Louise Donoghue seconded it; all in attendance agreed. Another new motion to add \$450.00 to the original fall planting, which brings the total cost for 5 trees to \$1,950.00, was made by Ken Grasso, seconded by Rich Lerner; all in attendance agreed.

Another motion was made by Ken Grasso to extend the fall planting to include an additional five trees bringing the total number of trees to ten. Louise Donoghue seconded it; all in attendance agreed. This brings the cost of the trees in total to \$3,900.00, for 10 trees.

A thank you note will be written to Kalian for the \$500.00 donation.

**New Business:**

**Removal of Trees on Third Avenue:** Members of the commission have been told that the trees on Third, and possibly Fourth Avenue will be removed. The commission will look into it.

**Grants:** Ken Grasso and Bill Thorne will look into grants.

**Wrapping Trees:** Members of the commission will look into wrapping the young trees on Hennessey Boulevard.

New Jersey Shade Tree Federation dues have been paid.

The commission will offer homeowners who plant trees on their property the option of purchasing a gator bags.

**Tree Ordinances:** The discussion was tabled.

The tree planted in honor of Mayor Peter Donoghue did not survive the summer. A motion was made by Rich Lerner to replace it and the price will not exceed \$750.00. It was seconded by Louise Donoghue: all in attendance agreed.

**Watering Trees:** Members of the commission will look into having someone water the trees.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 PM. Louise Donoghue made the motion to adjourn, Ken Grasso seconded it; all in attendance agreed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lori Montana