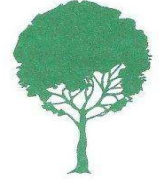




Borough of Atlantic Highlands

Shade Tree Commission



100 First Avenue • Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey 07716
Tel: (732) 291-1444 • Fax: (732) 291-9725

May 11, 2022 - 7:00 PM

Meeting Held at Atlantic Highlands Borough Hall

1. The monthly meeting was called to order by Ken Grasso at 7 p.m. in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law.

Present: Ken Grasso, Fred Callis, Bill Thorne, Mary Trank, Ellen O'Dwyer, Janet Grote; Brian Dougherty, Lori Hohenleitner (council liaisons)

Not present: Angus Rennie

2. Ken Grasso made a motion to approve the March 2022 and April 2022 meeting minutes. Bill Thorne seconded. All voted in favor.

3. Correspondence: Two tree requests were received.

4. Treasurer's report:

Opening balance:	\$16,436.03
Expenses (Ken Grasso misc. expenses)	114.03
Total deposits	0
Closing balance	\$16,321.90

5. Approval of Treasurer's report: Mary Trank made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Ken Grasso seconded. All voted in favor.

6. Old Business

a. We are still in search of a Serviceberry and other memorial trees. Bill Thorne will be making calls to Casola and other nurseries. Councilwoman Hohenleitner knows someone with contacts to Statile (a wholesale nursery) and she will be inquiring as well. The group discussed the situation with spring vs fall plantings for residential trees (not memorial trees); these are dependent on the availability of trees and labor to plant them. For now, the priority is to get the promised memorial trees in the ground.

b. Ken made a motion for an amount not to exceed \$10,000 for the installation and purchase of new trees for the fall planting. Fred Callis seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

c. The Memorial Tree Plaque Modernization project continues, with the Pete Donoghue tree to be the first to have the newly designed plaque and with other memorial trees to follow.

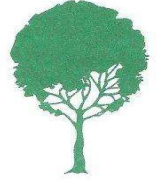
d. Expansion of Shade Tree Commission - information about this will be presented at a future meeting.

7. New Business:

a. Summer watering - Ken Grasso spoke to the Borough Administrator Rob Ferrugina about the borough's portable water tank - it is unclear of its practicability for our summer watering needs; we also discussed whether we should consider water "bumpers" at the base of newly-planted trees. Ken is going to speak further with Rob and DPW Superintendent Jimmy Phillips about our options.



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b. Ellen O'Dwyer told the members about the Green Team's initiative to have a "Green Table" at the weekly Farmer's Market in order to educate residents about the various groups in town working together on environmental issues. She asked if Shade Tree would like to participate and this was met with a favorable reaction. She also updated on "Sustainable NJ" and the first submission deadline - May 21st.

c. The group expressed interest in knowing the maintenance plan for the Many Mind Creek Remediation Project's newly planted trees. Specifically, who will be taking care of these trees during the hot summer months? Council Dougherty is going to find out who the borough's contact person is for the project in order to get answers to Shade Tree Commission's questions.

8. Public comment:

a. Resident Ashley Cruz proposed that Shade Tree sponsor the showing of a film - "Greenfire" - by conservationist Aldo Leopold, possibly in conjunction with the Environmental Commission. This was met with a favorable reaction and Ashley is going to research further.

9. Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ken Grasso and seconded by Fred Callis. All voted in favor. The next meeting is scheduled for June 8, 2022, at 7 p.m. at borough hall.