



Borough of Atlantic Highlands
Shade Tree Commission



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

Atlantic Highlands Shade Tree Commission
Meeting at Atlantic Highlands Borough Hall
August 9, 2023 - 7:00 PM

1. The monthly meeting was called to order by Fred Callis at 7 p.m. in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Present: Fred Callis, Ashley Cruz, Ken Grasso, Bill Thorne, Mary Trank; Vito Colasurdo, Lori Hohenleitner (council liaisons).

Not present; Janet Grote, Ed Kenney; Ben Schmoll.

2. Bill Thorne made a motion to accept the July 2023 minutes. Fred Callis seconded the motion. Ken Grasso abstained. All others voted in favor.

3. Correspondence: Five tree removal/trim permits were received. One tree planting request was received.

4. Treasurer’s Report: The treasurer’s report was presented by Bill Thorne. Fred Callis made a motion to accept the treasurer’s report. Ashley Cruz seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Treasurer’s report:

Opening balance	\$12,845.91 (July 13, 2023)
Deposits	0
Expenses	0
Closing balance	\$12,845.91 (August 9, 2023)

5. Old Business:

- a. Tribute Tree Plaque Modernization progress update - Ken and Fred are working on finishing five biographies.
- b. Fall planting - As discussed in previous meetings, planned are: harbor replacement tree(s); one resident request; possibly a Hennessey Blvd tree. Bill Thorne will post on Facebook of tree availability for residents.
- c. Tree watering update - Resident volunteers and DPW employees continue to water the newly planted trees. The Shade Tree Commission is grateful to the volunteers and to DPW Superintendent Jimmy Phillips and DPW employees for their assistance keeping the trees alive during the hot summer months.
- d. FilmOneFest report - Shade Tree Commissioners attended and spoke to visitors.
- e. Tree ordinance - A document of possible revisions to the municipal tree ordinance was distributed. This document was written by arborist Shari Spero of CME Associates, the borough’s engineering firm. The Shade Tree Commission will review the document at its September meeting in order to provide



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CME with recommendations for the final draft. The final draft of proposed revisions to the tree ordinance will be presented to the Mayor and Council in advance of their September 28th meeting.

6. New Business:

- a. Ashley Cruz said that she is concerned about the health of the trees in Veterans Park and would like to know if the town has had them inspected by a professional. Councilwoman Hohenleitner is going to find out if the trees have been inspected, if any action has been taken so far, and what action is planned.
- b. Bill Thorne suggested reviving the Shade Tree Commission newsletter. This discussion is going to continue in September.

7. Public Comment: None

7. A motion to adjourn was made by Ken Grasso at 7:56 p.m. Fred Callis seconded the motion. All voted in favor.