

Atlantic Highlands Shade Tree Commission
Meeting June 11, 2019
Atlantic Highlands Borough Hall Conference Room
100 First Avenue, Atlantic Highlands, NJ 07716

In Attendance: Ken Grasso, Bill Thorne, Rich Lerner, Kate Kigginton, Louise Donoghue, Lori Montana

The monthly meeting was called to order by Ken Grasso at 6:39 PM, in accordance to the Sunshine Law.

The Minutes: Minutes from the meeting on May 14, 2019 were accepted as amended. Rich Lerner made the motion, Ken Grasso seconded it; all in attendance agreed.

Correspondence: The commission received a tree maintenance request. Ken Grasso went to look at it. The tree looked healthy. He contacted the homeowner and she agreed the tree looked fine. No further action will be taken.

Treasurer's Report:

Opening Balance: May 15, 2019- \$8,532.25

Closing Balance: June 11, 2019- \$8,184.37

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

Old Business:

Green Communities Grant: The Shade Tree commission was awarded the grant! The State of New Jersey will give the commission up to \$3,000.00. The commission is grateful to Bill Thorne for all his hard work.

Plaques for Tribute Trees: Fred Callis discussed the possibility of having plaques made of stone and set in concrete. The commission will try this with Peter Donoghue's tree to see if it works.

Stakeholders Meeting: The new dates that are being considered are: Thursday, October 3, 10, or 17. Lori Montana will ask Jane Reynolds, the branch director, which of those days the activity room in the library will be free. Rich Wolowicz will talk about our tree inventory and tree canopy.

Arbor Day Poster Contest: The Shade Tree Commission thanks Jane Reynolds for putting up the posters of the winners of the contest. They will remain on display until the awards assembly at the Atlantic Highlands Elementary School on June 18. The posters will be given back to the winners and the prizes will be given out.

Kate Wigginton gave Louise the ribbons, and gift cards for the winners. Plus a gift card for the art teacher, Caroline Northrop. The winners will also have a tree planted in their names in a national forest. Louise will fill out the cards. The vote was amended and the final figure is \$445.00 be spent on rewards. Ken Grasso made the motion to approve, Fred Callis seconded it; all in attendance agreed.

Fireman's Field: Kate Wigginton called the landscaping companies and she is waiting for them to call her back. Bill Thorne will call the Rumson Shade Tree Commission to find out if they have suggestions of landscape companies just in case Kate does not hear back the companies she got in touch with.

New Business:

Film One Fest: The commission will take a table at Film One Fest in Atlantic Highlands on July 20. The members discussed what to bring to put on the table.

Tribute Trees: The commission voted to continue the tribute tree program. The vote was 4 to 1.

Street Trees: The mark outs are done, but the trees have not been planted. The delay is due to the nursery "running behind." They asked not to be paid until the trees are planted. The commission agreed.

Tree Stumps: There are no new stumps to be added to the list.

Gator Bags: Ken Grasso and Kate Wigginton will decide which trees need gator bags. Ken Grasso will speak to the Atlantic Highlands Street Department about putting the gator bags on the trees that need them.

Watering the Trees: The commission members discussed the possibility of hiring someone to do the watering instead of the members doing it.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 PM. Ken Grasso made the motion to adjourn, Louise Donoghue seconded it; all in attendance agreed.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Montana

