

BOARD OF SHADE TREE & PARKS COMMISSION MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

December 12, 2018

Present: K. Raschen, W. R. Comery, C. Hittle, M. Ivanicki, B. Keppler, A. Les, D. Preis, H. Tedesco-Santos, C. DiPiazza

Absent: J. Sexton, D. Minervini

W. R. Comery called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. and stated that this meeting of the Shade Tree & Parks Commission, as required, has been made public and posted at Borough Hall.

W. R. Comery asked for a motion to approve last month's minutes. Motion made by D. Preis, seconded by A. Les. All in favor.

Council Report:

H. Tedesco-Santos reported that the Shade Tree Commission will stay in place. Mayor LaBarbiera would like to change some items in Shade Tree's policy for Tree Preservation. The intention was to hold the builder responsible. The intent was not to penalize the homeowner. Suggestions are to perhaps impose fines for builders up to a \$1,500 maximum fine per occurrence. We will meet with Mayor LaBarbiera/Council to discuss how we can make The Tree Preservation better.

The Shade Tree & Parks secretary should take email addresses, in addition to telephone #'s, from all resident inquiries so we can respond expediently.

For root upheaval of driveways, we have to figure out how large of an area we should repair (asphalt only – no pavers). The reason for most, if not all the areas that have been upheaved, is because the asphalt was brought too close to the tree and/or was not put down properly with four inches of compacted stone and two inches of asphalt.

Superintendent's Report:

Tree planting – 239 trees were planted this fall, plus 99 No Net Loss trees planted for a total of 338 trees planted. 144 trees were dug from our nursery. We have four trees left at the nursery that will be planted tomorrow.

A Red Bud memorial tree and knockout roses were planted in Besen Park in memory of Eastbrook School's two bus accident victims. Two donated benches were also placed there.

A total of 30 ash trees were removed by Downes Tree Service for the emerald ash borer. Wendy Ann has been completed and Beverwyck Pl (E & W) and Clarkson Court are almost completed.

We have 137 trees slated for winter removal: 65 for truck 395, 46 for truck 402 and 25 large oaks.

28 Demarest Road: We received "Hold Harmless" Agreements from Mr. Branch and his neighbor and the trees were pruned to his satisfaction.

Alzheimer's Association: A Certificate of Appreciation of received for putting up banners for their walk

Authorization to Pay Bills – Motion made by D. Preis, seconded by M. Ivaniki. All in favor.

Assistant Superintendent's Report:

Report was given by K. Raschen from J. Sexton's notes in his absence.

Sidewalk Program – Secretary is taking information when residents call in and will let them know approximately when they will be able to have them done. Seven locations were done recently and our contract is good until 10/2019.

Policy Manual Update: On 12/05/2018 under Section 27 – Roots and Sidewalks – a new subsection was added

b. Driveways, roots from Borough of Paramus Street Trees effecting driveways will be cut in accordance with the availability of Personnel and equipment. The property owner or authorized representative must sign a "hold harmless" agreement prior to the start of the job. The driveway contractor hired by the property owner or authorized representative must first remove the existing driveway surface, expose the offending roots and notify the Shade Tree & Parks Commission office when the location is ready for root cutting. A minimum of 2 day's notice is required to allow for scheduling of the job. Shade Tree Crews will only cut the roots, the removal of the roots after they are cut and the driveway surface replacement are the responsibility of the property owner's contractor. No roots will be cut within 5' of the side of any Borough of Paramus street tree.

338 Alan Drive – The homeowner was given permission to remove two trees (Norway Maple and Ash) and pay \$700 for two new trees to be planted.

Chairman's Report -

Insurance Claims, Violations, Bonds: Motor vehicle accident between Lamborghini and Jaguar on Route 17 and the motor vehicle accident by Vitamin Shoppe on Route 4 West were paid. For the accident by DCH Honda on Route 4 East, we are still waiting for payment.

Ken Raschen went to court for a violation on the corner of Broad and Broadview. A warrant was issued to Perfect Cut.

Land Use – Shamrock Creek has new plans.

Personnel – One new employee started on Monday, December 10th and resigned on Tuesday, December 11th so we are down one employee.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by D. Preis, seconded by M. Ivaniki at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes respectfully taken and submitted by B. Keppler in Sarah Dahl's absence.