Minutes of the Leonia Shade Tree Commissions’ regular meeting held Wednesday **September 14, 2011**

The meeting was in compliance with the Open Meetings Act as the date, time, and place of all regular meetings were filed with the Borough clerk on January 1, 2011 and had been properly publicized

**Present**: Jane Wilson (Chairperson), Pete Shanno (Vice Chair), David Dolch (Secretary), Richard Stenken, Gloria Arlak, Vivian DeMarco, Christine Healy-Sammis,

**Absent**: Anne Bonadies, Vince Scordo

**Council Liaison:**  Not Present

**The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM**

**Minutes:**

The minutes of the June 8, 2011 meeting were read. By motion of G Arlak, seconded by C Healy-Sammis and vote of the Commissioners present, the minutes were approved as read.

**Public Portion:**

No public was present.

**Council Liaison’s Report:**

The Council Liaison was not present.

**Chairperson’s Report:**

 The process for filing the Boro Community Forestry Plan with the State of NJ is now an on-line process. Commissioners CEUs are now listed on-line and checked for accuracy when filing. J Wilson has filed our plan and has verified the CEUs. The Community Forestry Plan now on files is valid until 2015.

The resident at 322 Magnolia planted a bush (Rose of Sharon) in the narrow tree lawn between their, and their neighbors, driveway. Boro Administrator J Terhune sent the resident a letter indicating that the STC must approve any plantings done on Boro property. This planting is inappropriate (poor species choice and blocks sight lines) and the resident was advised to remove it. The resident complied and the planting was removed.

An email was received from the Leonia Environmental Commission Chairwoman Martha Lieblich. The Environmental Council has received a grant to reduce auto emissions and greenhouse gasses in Leonia, and may wish to involved the STC. R Stenken, liaison to the EC, will follow up.

The STC has passed inspection by the State of New Jersey for the use of the Business Stimulus Grant that was received. This grant was used to finance the spring tree planting program. The State inspected the bid process, materials, and workmanship of the plantings and was satisfied with the outcome. The Boro has received the grant check and the contractor used has been paid.

Tree Service Data has been received from the Boro DPW. Since January 1, 2011 there have been;

 41 Trees Removed

 72 Trees Pruned

 4 Trees Lost due to Storm Action

### Commissioner’s Reports:

P Shanno

* West end of Vreeland. House for sale has large dead tree in front of it. Report has been filed for removal.

D Dolch

* 135 Overlook Ave – C Peal. Reports tree dropping branches and Asian Longhorn Beetles. Tree is shedding large limbs, marked and reported for removal. No evidence of ALB’s present on this, or other trees in the area.

J Wilson

* 136 Christie St – marked for removal
* 204 Sylvan - marked for removal
* 1 Winthrop - marked for removal
* 403 Allaire - marked for removal
* 206 Highwood - marked for removal
* 145 Highwood - marked for removal
* Hillcrest behind LMS – 2 trees marked for removal
* 124 Christie - marked for removal
* 201 Christie - marked for removal
* 219 Christie - marked for removal
* 315 Oakdene - marked for removal
* 234 Ft. Lee Road – submitted for pruning
* 327 Beechwood – submitted for pruning
* 219 Christie – submitted for pruning
* 127 Ames – submitted for pruning
* 29 Palmer Pl – submitted for pruning
* 540 Nordoff Pl – submitted for pruning
* 128 Maple – submitted for pruning
* 280 Leonia Ave – submitted for pruning
* 194 Highwood – submitted for pruning, follow up with CTE

C Healy-Sammis

* 421 Park – submitted for pruning
* 410 Park – tree rotted to core, submitted for removal. Tree has been removed
* 138 Reldyes – resident asked for tree pruning. No trees on Boro property need pruning. The only tree that is on Boro property is a Japanese Maple. All other trees at this address are on private property.
* Paulin Blvd – Tree had already been removed
* 149 Reldyes – submitted for removal
* 177 Reldyes – submitted for removal
* 181 Reldyes – submitted for pruning
* 185 Reldyes – Tree has been removed

**NJ Shade Tree Federation Meeting Oct 21 & 22**

 The NJ STF Meeting is Oct 21 & 22. State law requires that at least two Commissioners have at least 4 Continuing Education Units each every year. Each day of the Meeting provides 4 CEUs. J Wilson, V DeMarco, and G Arlak are tentative attendees on Oct 21. Reservations are due October 10, 2011. Contact J Wilson for further information or to register.

**2011 Fall Planting**

 There is currently $2,475 left in the STC budget for 2011. This is enough to plant approximately 19 to 20 trees this fall. This amount is under $3,000 and does not have to be bid. By vote of the Commissioners present it was decided to utilize the same contractor that won the spring planting contract. J Wilson will contact this contractor. D Dolch will assemble a list of appropriate fall planting species to obtain quotes on. C Healy-Sammis will provide planting locations. Planting will take place late October early November.

**District 6 Walkabout / Tree Inventory**

 All areas in District 6 except for that assigned to V Scordo & R Stenken have been inventoried and input. R Stenken indicates that the inventory for this area is mostly complete and he will coordinate with V Scordo to finish this area in the coming weeks.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

Glenwood will be getting new curbs in the new future. This street is in G Arlak’s area. She will check which trees are to be removed and that the contractor will be replacing any removed trees.

 The empty lot on Broad across from the “TV Clinic” building is slated to be paved as a parking lot. The STC is to receive a copy of the landscaping plans and will make recommendations when received.

**Adjournment:**

By motion of J Wilson, seconded by R Stenken, and vote of the Commissioners, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 PM

Respectfully Submitted

David Dolch, Secretary