

Minutes of the Leonia Shade Tree Commission's regular meeting held Wednesday January 14, 2015.

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 Jan 1, 2015 and had been properly publicized.

Present: Jane Wilson (Chairperson), Meghan Lutz, Vivian DeMarco, Imanta Bergmanis, Christine Healey-Sammis, Richard Stenken, Kate Mirbaba and Anne Bonadies.

Absent: Gloria Arlak

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm.

Minutes:

The minutes of the December 10, 2014 meeting were read. By the vote of the Commissioners present, the minutes were approved.

Public Portion:

No public in attendance

Council Liaison's Report:

Council Liaison Maureen Havlusch was present

The committee unanimously voted for these positions for the following year:

Jane Wilson – Chair
Christine Healey-Sammis– Vice Chair
Anne Bonadies – Secretary

Meghan Lutz has been reappointed for a 5 year term.

Chairperson's Report:

Jane discussed the removal of a shade tree on Oakdene, without prior permission. We discussed whether or not to send the contractor a bill to pay a fee for an illegal removal.

Jane has sent in our budget with the Tree City application.

We have \$2,000 in the trust fund for new plantings. Meghan and Anne will research where to do the new plantings.

Leonias Day is in the works. The date is May 17, 1- 5 pm.

Commissioner's Reports:

Kate discussed the need to educate the public about the destructive Emerald Ash Borer, which is making its way towards us. It is estimated that the cost of removing and replacing Ash trees infected by the EAB in the United States will run \$10 billion! We discussed different approaches but agreed that people need to be proactive, be able to identify their Ash trees, and set traps for the borers. We will need to take an inventory of town Ash trees, but cannot do this until the spring, when they start to leaf out.

Known Ashes in the Borough, planted in 2007:

120 Ames
140 Ames
174 Sylvan
110 Christie Street
117 Christie Street
180 Christie Street
31 Glenwood (2 trees)

The town has not planted Ashes in Leonia since 2007.

New/Old Business:

The ordinance is looking good, with a few minor changes.

Adjournment:

By motion of Jane Wilson and a vote of the Commissioners present, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Anne Bonadies