**Minutes of the Leonia Shade Tree Commission’s regular meeting held Sept 14, 2016**

The meeting was in compliance with the Open Meetings Act as the date, time and place of all regular meetings were filled with Borough Clerk and had been properly publicized.

**Present**:

Christine Healy-Sammis (chairperson of tonight's meeting), Imanta Bergmanis, Gloria Arlak, Kate Mirbaba, Julie Ulbrich

**Absent**:

Jane Wilson, Richard Stenken, Vivian DeMarco, Mark Minichiello, Anne Bonadies

**Minutes**: The minutes of the June meeting were read and by vote of the Commissioners present, the minutes were approved.

**Public Portion:**

No Public present

Discussed an email that was received by Jane Wilson from Audrey Bommer of 325 Highwood Ave. Resident is requesting removal of Oak tree on neighbor’s. Jane inspected and deemed tree healthy and advised pruning. Follow up email from Audrey showed a large limb from that tree had fallen and scratched her car.

**Council Liaison Report** - Councilman absent

**Chairperson’s Report:**

1. Woodland Place developer supplied Shade Tree with approximately $8,000 for trees cut on lot. This affords the town about 23 trees to be planted.

2. Leonia Health Fair: Julie will take 10-12 time slot and Christine Healy will take the 12-2 spot.

3. CEU’s - Discussed Core training on October 28th or 29th for Julie. 2 other members (possibly Jane and Kate) to attend course in Atlantic City.

4. Inventory: Collecting District 5 - Commissioners still in the process of submitting District 5 records to Jane - almost complete

5. $30,000 grant approved. Commissioners to email Christine with requests for places in need of new plantings along Broad Ave from Moore to St. John’s. Other trees to be planted at Wood and Fireman’s Park. Plan in place to cut trees on Broad Ave and Wood Park this Fall in order to plant in the Spring of 2017. Christine to speak with schools to get plantings on ACS property.

6. Also discussed need to re-evaluate trees we’ve asked the town to cut down. Commissioners asked to take inventory of trees they have requested to take down and email Jack and Jane with address in the subject line for organizational purpose.

7. Fall Planting 2016: 6 Paperbark Maple (Total $1074), 6 Japanese Tree Lilac ($954), 6 Goldenrain trees ($1110), 6 Silver Lindens ($1134), 8 Kentucky Coffee Trees ($1432), 7 Willow Oaks ($1295). Total is 39 plantings at 125 per tree for a total of $4,875 for planting cost. Total cost of Fall 2016 planting $11,874.

Discussed possibility of knocking on homeowner’s doors to discuss importance of watering the baby trees outside of their properties given the dry Summer. Also need for mulching.

8. 114 Leonia Ave - White Birch to be assessed

**Commissioner’s Reports:**

1. Gloria Arlak mentioned that the Goldenrain tree outside of the Leonia Post Office is missing. To follow up and ask Jack/Jane if they have any knowledge of this…

**New/Old Business**

1. In an effort to get more “free” trees planted, the idea of starting a memorial tree program for Leonians. The program could allow townspeople to pay to purchase/plant a tree with a personalized plaque as a memorial for a loved one. Julie will follow up with Jack Terhune about the procedure/cost to purchase memorial plaques so we can discuss if this is a viable way to get more trees planted and more townsmen involved in beautifying Leonia.

STC to reconvene October 12, 2016. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm

Minutes submitted,

Julie Ulbrich