



Township of Colts Neck, Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes

8 January 2015

Meeting called to order at 19:30 hours by Jim Nicoletti, who read the following statement. "As the presiding officer of this meeting of the Colts Neck Shade Tree Commission, I hereby declare that the notice requirements in accordance with the provisions of the Open Meeting Law Chapter 21, P.L. 1975 has been provided in accordance with the Annual Notice Procedures of C 10.4-28 of said Act. I further order that this public announcement be placed in the minutes of this meeting."

Roll Call

Commission Members

Present: Jim Nicoletti, Eileen Stivala, Patricia Eastman, Henry Hammond, Gordon Boak

Absent: Jen Axelrod, Sean Burke (new alternate member)

Staff

Present: Committeeman Michael Fitzgerald, Township Committee liaison to STC.

Absent, Anita O'Malley, sec'y

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion by J. Nicoletti to approve, 2nd by H. Hammond, the Minutes of the previous meeting of December 11 2014

New Subdivisions and Site Plans

1. PB #716 Manor Homes application: No new information was available. However, vis a vis that application and other similar ones, STC members expressed to Mr. Fitzgerald STC's need for expert opinions when considering applications. STC expects that the developer provide testimony to STC when a proposal is brought forward, and that a landscape architect independent of the developer also provide guidance to STC. Mr. Fitzgerald stated he would convey these requests to TC.

Discussion

1. 2015 STC Organization: Patricia Eastman has been appointed a full member of STC; Sean Burke is new first alternate member; Michael Fitzgerald is liaison to CN Township Committee (TC). After discussion and by unanimous vote, for 2015 Eileen Stivala is Chair; Jen Axelrod is Co-chair effective immediately. The second alternate position is vacant at present.
2. It was the unanimous opinion of the members that as immediate past STC Chair Jim Nicoletti should be commended for his excellent service to STC and the Town.
3. For 2015, STC will meet monthly on the first Thursday at 7:30PM at Town Hall as it has in the past.
4. Town Hall Arboretum. Pursuant to the recent STC presentation to the TC, the TC has approved resolutions 1. endorsing STC's initiative to seek national recognition of the Town hall Arboretum, and 2. that the STC be responsible for the oversight of the Arboretum within the limits of its resources. A strategic plan for the Arboretum previously presented to STC in draft form, was reviewed and approved by STC after a motion by J. Nicoletti and a second by H. Hammond. It will be forwarded to TC for their review, amendment, and approval. The strategic plan will be the basis for the application for certification.
5. Colts Neck has had Tree City status for several years, but its current status is unclear. Ms. Stivala will review our current status with Ms. O'Malley to be sure that our Tree City status is maintained.
6. **Liaison:** An informal and collaborative discussion ensued between STC members and Committeeman Fitzgerald regarding the STC mission, greenways, cul de sac maintenance, and resources available to STC, possible second alternate candidates, and other concerns.

Motion to adjourn

All in favor. Meeting adjourned 20:50.

Respectfully Submitted,
G.Boak, acting Sec'y
8, January 2015