

Colts Neck Shade Tree Commission Minutes

The meeting was called to order on March 2 at 7:30PM at Colts neck Town Hall by Eileen Stivala, Chair, who read the mandatory public meeting opening Statement.

Roll Call

Members Present: Stivala, Boak, Axelrod, Eastman, Nicoletti, Hammond, Viola

Absent: Burke, O'Malley

Also present: Brian Leff, Landscape architect; Tom Rizzuto, Committeeman Liaison; and
Laura Riley, citizen

Mike Viola was welcomed as a new member, having been sworn in yesterday.

Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved after a motion by Mr. Nicoletti and a second by Mr. Hammond

Old Business

Budget. Ms. Stivala presented to the Township Committeemen on Feb 27 the 2017 budget request for STC which was discussed at our last meeting.

GK Distilling application: Mr. Leff stated that the issues raised at the STC meeting of last November are still valid. STC will review GKs plan when it has been amended and resubmitted.

Arboretum: DPW will be contacted to clean up damage caused by the recent wind storm. MCPS has been contacted to see if shared services are available from the County to treat green ash on municipal and arboretum property. Mr. Leff was asked to resubmit the preliminary phase of the Strategic Plan for the Arboretum which STC had asked him to prepare. He was asked to be mindful of possible changes to the core site which are under consideration by the township committee. Replacement of trees removed from the arboretum is postponed pending receipt of the Strategic Plan's preliminary phase. Ms. O'Malley has submitted the Arboretum Tree ID Tags to the printer. Each tag will include the common name, the botanical name, and a QR code link to more information about the tree and an internet link to a reference source.

Violations: none. But a concern was voiced about clearing of woods on Country Club Road near Muhlenbrink Road. Mr. Nicoletti will investigate to be sure that no Green Ways property is being cleared.

New Business

Holland Flower #2B969: Only a use variance has been requested at this time. Therefore no STC action is necessary.

Abbas Parking lot #PB722: request to connect two parking lots and close one parking lot exit. The specs call for addition of 58 Ilex but the plans show only 11. There is no remediation specified to the parking lot exit which is being closed. Mr. Leff will contact Two Rivers Engineering about these concerns. STC action was tabled pending a response from Two Rivers Engineering which will include appearing in person before STC.

Seedlings donated by the State Forestry Service: Colts Neck has requested 1000 seedlings which will be given away free at Town Hall Saturday April 8 from 9 to 11 AM by members of STC to any citizens of Colts Neck. Type of tree seedlings are not known yet.

Liaison report:

No definite plans yet for core site alterations. Historical Society has asked for advice regarding a memorial tree they wish to plant at Montrose School. Ms Axelrod will evaluate the site.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 after a motion by Mr. Nicoletti and second by Ms. Eastman.

Respectfully submitted,
Gordon Boak, Acting Secretary