

Minutes            Thursday August 2 2018  
Shade Tree Commission Colts Neck Town Hall

The meeting was convened at 7:30PM by Eileen Stivala, Chair who read aloud the Open Meeting statement.

Roll Call: Present: Boak, Eastman, Hammond, Martin, Stivala, Vito Viola  
Excused absences: Nicoletti, Riley  
Also present, Mike Viola Township Committeeman, and Ann Sherwood

A quorum being present, the minutes of the previous meeting of July were approved with the amendment that Ms. Martin was present.

Ann Sherwood was sworn in as second alternate member of STC by Mike Viola and welcomed by those present

#### Old Business

28 Ridge Road: Question arose as to who owns conservation easements. Ms. Martin will seek clarification from Tim Anfusio and report back so that this complaint can be adjudicated.

Galloping Hill Road complaint: closed. No further action needed.

Some information has been gathered regarding information for new residents, but the information is incomplete at this time.

#### New Business

2 Tallyrand Drive: Site visited by Mr. Viola and Ms Martin: One dead tree in greenways noted but poses no immediate danger. Several dieing trees in greenways abutting property fence noted. Mr. Viola will visit property with Mr. Bader to see if DPW can handle the problem.

50 The Enclosure: Mr. Viola visited and reports a green acres tree has fallen into and is propped up by another. There is no immediate danger to private property but the trees are near a stream where children go scouting for arrowheads. Mr. Viola and Mr. Bader will assess the problem further.

4 Wide Horizons: Visited by Ms. Martin and Ms. Riley who report greenways trees alive but covered with vines and posing no immediate threat. STC agreed that the homeowner could cut the vines at his own expense.

1039 Rt 34: Ms. Stivala visited and found extensive rotting at the base of the trunks of several green acres trees. No immediate threat was present. STC agreed that homeowner could remove the trees at their own expense using a certified arborist.

2 Twin Lakes Drive: a letter about infected green ash trees was received. Mr. Boak and Mr Viola will visit the site.

Huddy Parking Lot variance was reviewed and no STC issues were noted.

In view of the problem of multiple complaints regarding easement and conservation and green acre trees, STC agreed after discussion to adopt the following policy: Given the severe township budgetary limitations for managing green acres, that after receipt of a complaint and its review by STC, and where no immediate danger is deemed to be present, STC could give permission to the owner to remove that tree(s) in question using a certified arborist and at his own cost. This policy will be forwarded to the township administrator and township committee.

Arboretum report: the new tree ID tags are being printed.

Liaison Report: Mr. Viola reviewed current CHOA negotiations between the Town and the State of New Jersey. He will seek the support of the township committee for the STC policy of Green Acres management. The Township has advertised to fill the position of secretary for STC.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35PM after a motion by Mr. Hammond and a second by Mr. Viola.

Gordon Boak, acting secretary.