



The City of Hoboken

Shade Tree Commission

Minutes
Meeting on May 13, 2013

1. Roll call

- Present - Henriques, Condon, Dziman, Yuhas
- Excused - Tricarico
- Also present – Calamoneri; Commissioner Emeritus Fahmie

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the March meeting were approved. The April meeting was cancelled to do a lack of a quorum.

3. Washington Street Tree Project

- Watering of new trees on the 100 block will be taken care of by Director Pellegrini
- The signage for “No Trash” was approved with Condon’s recommendation.

Calamoneri will verify the fine amount, communicate to Tricarico and signs will be ordered and placed on trees by Tricarico by June 1.

- Plantings around trees on 100 block will be led by Condon. To be done by June 15.
- Condon and Calamoneri will get volunteers to install the plantings.
- Director Pellegrini agreed to water plantings weekly.
- Condon will arrange “ribbon cutting” with Juan Melli to include the Mayor, Condon, and Tricarico attending. To be done as soon as possible after plantings are completed.

4. Washington Street Project Phase 2 (200 block) – The vote was unanimous to implement this project. Condon will lead the project, handle the RFP and implement by the end of the year. This project will also include plantings around each tree.

5. Additional City wide tree planting – The vote was unanimous to spend any funds remaining after the 200 Washington Street Project on planting trees throughout the City. The number of trees will be limited by the cost per tree and remaining funds.

- Fahmie and Condon will work together on the RFP process.
- Fahmie will lead the project to the point of the actual tree planting.
- Condon will supervise the tree planting.
- Calamoneri and Tricarico will determine how many residents have asked for trees to be planted in front of their property.
- Dziman will determine how many of those residents actually have the proper space for a new tree and new tree pit.
- Those names will be entered into a lottery and names picked out randomly. Melli will be contacted to work on the PR associated with the drawing and the communication to the City about the event.

- Property owners who receive trees will have to sign a document indicating that they will care for the tree.
- It has to be determined how much a property owner will pay to receive a tree.
- The plan is to plant the trees by the end of the year.

6. Hufnagel Maintenance quote – As described above, Director Pellegrini will take care of watering trees and new plantings around the trees on the 100 block of Washington Street. The Hufnagel quote was too high.

7. Washington Street “Culture” Change

- Director Pellegrini will give citations to building owners who have trash in trash pits on 100 block of Washington Street.
- Plantings around trees should help.
- Tricarico will arrange for “No Trash” signs on all tree pits.
- After plantings are done, Dziman will help communicate to all buildings on the block the importance of taking care of the newly planted trees and plantings.
- The tree lottery in#5 above will help communicate the importance of trees.

8. Hazardous Trees – Fahmie and Tricarico met with Director Pellegrini and he committed to removing the hazardous trees. He will be working on a grant to pay for some of the cost. Fahmie has already sent an RFP to Pellegrini and distributed it to contractors.

9. Tree permits – The vote was to allow trees on 1236 Bloomfield, 3 trees on 1st and Clinton and 233 Washington to be removed and replaced with new trees that meet current standards including expanding tree pits. The tree on 316 Bloomfield was tabled and it was voted that the group will vote via email after pictures of the tree are taken by Dziman. Subsequent to the meeting, Dziman shared pictures and it was decided that the tree should not be removed but that the tree pit should be expanded. Calamoneri will communicate all of the above to the respective tree owners.

10. Earth Day planting – Verizon paid for a tree planted near the high school. A ceremony was attended by the Mayor and Tricarico. There was concern that the tree may have died.

11. Commissioner Status – Henriques presented the proposal for the new Commissioners to Mayor Zimmer. Unfortunately, Fahmie was disqualified because he no longer resides in the City. The new list was created and sent to the Mayor for approval. Henriques will follow up.

12. New Vision Statement – The new Vision and Mission Statement were agreed upon with the change suggested by Fahmie. Henriques will send it to Jerry Lore for posting in the web site. In addition, the new Vision and Mission will be reviewed on a face to face basis with the following assignments:

- Mayor Zimmer – Henriques
- Director Pellegrini – Calamoneri
- Giattino – Henriques
- Castellano – Henriques
- Cunningham – Dziman
- Bhalla – Dziman
- Doyle – Fahmie
- Mello – Yuhas
- Mason – Henriques
- Occhipinti – Tricarico

- Russo – Tricarico

Henriques will review with the Mayor as a first step before others are notified. Once the Mayor approves, Henriques will let the Commission members know. A copy of the new Vision Statement is attached to these minutes.

13. TD Bank Green Streets Grant – It was speculated that the grant has probably expired.

14. Bulletin Board by Walgreens – Director Pellegrini agreed to have it removed.

15. ArborPro maintenance – Changes to ArborPro should be made when permits are approved. Fahmie will check the pruning of the tree on Park Avenue near the corner of 11th and Park was pruned or removed and report back to the Commission.

16. Maxwell Park Trees – The trees were replaced through the waterfront fund that is set aside for park maintenance. The fund is managed by the City.

17. The Community Forestry Program – The current plan runs through 2013. Tricarico will follow up to determine the requirements for future years.

18. The next meeting is June 10 – Henriques will be out of town for the next three meetings. However, Tricarico will arrange for a quality speaker phone or Skype prior to the meeting so Henriques can attend remotely.



The Hoboken Shade Tree Commission

Vision

The City of Hoboken will have 4,000 healthy, well maintained trees on City and County streets by 2020, a 33-percent increase from the approximately 3,000 in 2013.

The Vision will be accomplished through the efforts of the Shade Tree Commission, the Department of Environmental Services, the Mayor, City Council, business partners and community volunteers.

Mission

The mission of the Shade Tree Commission is to help develop, promote, sustain and regulate an effective and safe shade tree program that benefits Hoboken's trees and consequently benefits the environmental, economic and social well-being of City residents.

The Commission will help sustain healthy populations of trees on City and County streets by pursuing the removal and replacement of all damaged, dead, hazardous or diseased trees.

In addition, the Commission will communicate to residents and businesses in the City the need to protect and maintain each and every tree. This will be accomplished through education programs and specific projects in the City.

Finally, the Commission will promote the addition of as many new trees as possible consistent with the need to insure that they are installed properly and maintained to extend their life.